April 12-18, 1983 No.6 Argus Specialist Publication Argus Specialist Publication April 12-18, 1983 No.6

Buy-back row settled

Software company Quicksilva and a tape buy-back shop have settled their row out of court.

When the Software Centre began its Buy 'n Try scheme in London's Wigmore Street, Quicksilva served a writ in a bid to have it stopped.

Like other software houses, it saw the scheme as an invitation to copy its programs and then return for more.

Under the scheme customers could buy a tape and take it back within six months for 80 percent of its value off another purchase. But now, after hearings in the High Court, the two have agreed:

- The return period will be cut to one month
- Quicksilva has the right to monitor the level of exchanges
- Advertisements will warn against copying and state that Buy 'n Try is not a library
- Quicksilva will supply programs and use its best endeavours to encourage other suppliers to accept the system — two had said

Continued on page 5

PIRACY: LAW EXPERTS ARE BROUGHT IN

our MPs.

Legal experts have joined the fight against software pirates as leading figures in the industry tighten up their trade.

Members of the newlyformed Computer Trade Association are gathering facts to help a study being carried out by the Department of Legal Studies of Newcastle Polytechnic.

about the copyright laws."

CTA secretary Nigel

Backhurst said: "The association

has agreed to link up and give

them information. The main thing

that will come out of it will be facts

we can put to Parliament and to

that something has got to be done

"It is generally recognised

Nigel Buckhurst -- "make piracy a crime"

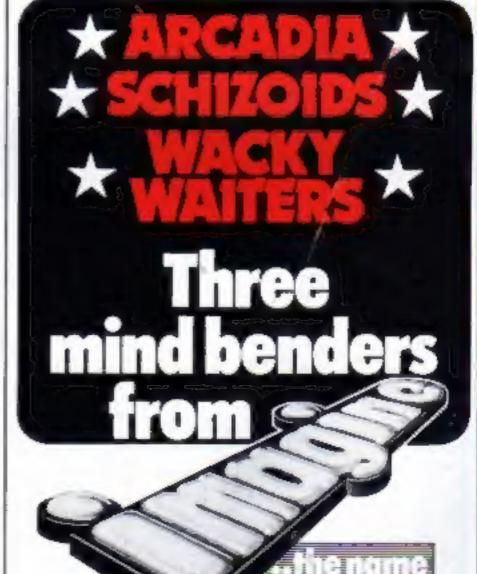
Already CTA members have agreed to new rules for supplying software to shops:

- Wording on cassettes must forbid unauthorised copying and hiring
- Retailers are being asked to put up signs saying programs are for the sole use of the purchaser

Chairman Tony Sheil, of Knot Komputing, said: 'Once that has gone ahead we can then go back to the software libraries and say to them that what they are doing is illegal.

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Programs
to type in
for: ZX81,
VIC-20,
Atari, BBC,
T199/4A
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reviews for:
Spectrum,
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Spectrum cassette £5.75p

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BBC DRAGON ATOM SINCLAIR SIRIUS SPECTRUM BB

BBC cassette £8.00 Disc £11.50 Spectrum cassette £5.75

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ATOM Space Panic £6.90, Death Satellite £6.90, Zodiac £6.90, Cyclon Attack £6.90. Atom Utilikits still available from stock at £18.50

SPECTRUM Crazy Balloons, an excellent game for the 16K machine at £5.75. Specfile stock control/data management system for the 48K machine £10.00

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Continued from front page

"People are hiring tapes and then copying them, It's got completely out of hand in the video market and we've got to stop the same thing happening to us.

"Feelings are running very high at the moment. It's imperative that we act together."

At present, he said, if action was taken by one software company against a library they would just start hiring out another company's products.

Mr Backhurst, a computer consultant and dealer, said piracy



Tony Sheil — "feelings are running high"

was also likely to hit the careers of young people.

Companies would not take on more staff if their business was being hit by libraries.

He said: "I know of one software house which was going to take on four more staff in the next 12 months. Now they are using freelances until they know what's going to happen."

The industry was being hampered by the 1952 Copyright Act — brought in when there were about 10,000 tape recorders in the UK — which was very hazy on computer software.

He said: "There's no way we can stop what you might call 'personal piracy." But we want commercial piracy written into the criminal law. We also want it pro-

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QUEST SPECTRUM SSIM T'NOOR SECTION SIM T'NOOR SECTION S

tected by more than copyright --perhaps something like a patent."

Some programmers were developing secret protection routines, but unless they were shared new ideas would not spread and improve standards, maintaining the country's lead in software.

One way to protect these ideas was to give them legal protection for a time, provided they were published.

To settle industry wrangles, members are considering lodging original programs with the association so that claims about theft of ideas can be judged.

Another suggestion to tackle the pirates was to sell a licence to use the program so that, technically, the cassette remained the property of the maker. Then legal restrictions could be written into the licence.

Mr Backhurst said: "Some of our members believe they can produce games which would only be available through libraries."

These might be lengthy adventure games on up to nine tapes, which would have to retail at about £50. They could be hired at £5-£10, but only under strict control.

Libraries were hiring out games now at about £1 and needed a minimum profit of £150-£200 a week.

"As you can see, you have got to shift an awful lot of tapes," he said. The hire fee should be £2.50. In our opinion a library could not operate on less and provide the back-up."

He told of one man with a 16K Spectrum who paid his £10 joining fee and hired two cassettes at £1 each, only to find they were for the 48K model — and the man running the library did not know the difference.

The CTA now has a membership of 30, including companies like Quicksilva, Bug Byte, Camputers, Tandy UK, Grundy Business Systems, A and F, Silversoft, Atari and Carnell. About 40 more are expected to join soon.

General Secretary, Computer Trade Association, 108 Margaret Street, Coalville, Leics LE6 2LX

40

Play happy families on a computer

Home computers can reunite families, says the editor of the American Family Newsletter, Rowan Wakefield.

He says that by placing the centre of technology back in the home, the family can be restored as the main influence on work, health, education and entertainment, all of which had been lessened by the government.

And he sees software as useful for family counselling — programs to reduce stress, improve marriages and combat drug addiction and alcoholism.

Mr Wakefield also recommends studies on how families use their time. He feels that the more time is given to computers, the less will be spent watching television or reading books.

He wants to see formed a lobby of opinion-formers, believing that users should have the greatest say in the type of technology that is developed.

This is certainly food for thought. Most of us computer addicts know the hardest control to find is the off switch and that quite a few of the people we live with are calling themselves computer widows or widowers.

If enough Americans suffer the same addiction think of the effect on the economy, particularly on TV advertising. By the way, when did you last read a good book? And I don't mean Programming Proverbs and Practices...

Want to learn how to type, spell, and play a game on your Atari 400, all at the same time? Typo uses the format of a space-maze game to do just that. By setting the desired words per minute, you get the opportunity to test your typing and spelling ability at the same time as you are being chased through the maze. Your space ship travels at the same rate of speed as you type.

If you need practice spelling certain words, you can enter your own list into the program. This little gem comes from Romox, Inc, 50! Vandell Way, Campbell CA 95008, (408) 374-7200, and costs \$44.95, plus shipping. This same firm makes other games for an assortment of small computers. Write to them for a catalogue. Beam me up!

Four new games for the Atari 400 and 800 and VIC-20 have just been announced by CBS Software, a division of CBS Inc, the American broadcasting company. K-Ruzy Atiks is a multi-level maze game in which, you guessed, hungry ants with exploding eggs try to get you. You also have to avoid hungry anteaters and flash floods.

In K-Razy Shootout, you get the opportunity of blasting your way through evil alien droids, while having to control radio-active walls and escape the deadly control sectors.

K-Razy Kritters puts you in charge of a command ship which requires you to blast alien attackers to save your home base. If you fail, your mighty ship is towed off to the galactic junkyard.

In K-Star Patrol, you are the star ship's only hope of survival as you defend against the alien attackers while trying to avoid the intergalactic leech (!). All this while trying to replenish your force field energy.

Typically violent games from America, I hear you sigh. Oh well, I don't pass judgment, just information.

All four are presently available for the Ataris in cartridge form.

Antiks and Patrol will be out soon formatted for the VIC-20. These should be available through regular distributers. If not, contact CBS at 41 Madison Avenue, New York 10010, for more information.

See you ned week ...

Bud Izeo

Fairfield, California.

Complaints: a jury decides

Complaints about computers and software will now be handled by a jury set up by the industry.

But they can only deal with companies which belong to the newly-formed Computer Trade Association.

The three-stage arbitration service, now being set up, was described by secretary Nigel Backhurst. It works like this:

- First, Mr Backhurst attempts to settle the dispute between customer and company
- If that fails, a board of arbitratiors one member of the public, an executive from the trade and someone with legal training will decide the issue
- Finally, if the complaint cannot be resolved, the CTA's council will step in — with the power to expel a member, if necessary.

Mr Backhurst said: "That's our final big stick. But we hope most complains could be settled by myself.

"This arbitration service will also deal with disputes within the trade, for example, when two companies bring out virtually identical programs. There has been quite a bit of bad feeling about this in the past.

"It's better than court battles."

The association is drawing up a code of practice and looking at claims made in advertisements, like "high resolution", "real" keyboards and useable RAM.

Mr Backhurst recalled seeing a computer which was claimed to have 48K of RAM. But 16K was occupied by the language — called from ROM — and 16K was used for the video display, leaving just 16K.

Members also wanted standars set for after-sales service. Computers should be supported by the manufacturers for at least five years after production ceased. General Secretary, Computer Trade Association, 108 Margaret Street, Coalville, Leics LE6 2LX

'Real thing' in monitors

Our new colour monitor is the real thing, says Hampshire company Electronequip.

Technical director Peter Coates said: "Instead of being a modified TV, it is a dual-purpose unit which has been specifically built to perform both functions."

Price at £244.95, the 14in monitor is suitable for resolving up to 80 characters across the screen, says the company, and claims it has better resolution than the competition.

Input is for RGB (red, green, blue) TTL-compatible, composite video and sound and there are two earphone sockets. The monitor has a silver cabinet measuring 19in by 13in by 15½in with a black front panel and comes with an RGB cable suitable for a BBC micro, or an alternative.

Electronequip, 36-38 West Street, Fareham, Hants PO16 0JW

Assemble at the poly

Students will be able to program in assembly language after just two evenings study, says Rosemary Royds, of the City of London Polytechnic.

The short course takes place at the poly on June 28 and 30 and is designed to introduce assembly language programming of the Z80 processor, heart of computers like the Spectrum, ZX81, Newbrain and most Japanese imports.

Rosemary Royds, Short Course Unit, City of London Polytechnic, 84 Moorgate, London. EC2M 6SQ

Let us know

If you are in the home computer business, please keep us in touch with what your company is doing. News items and review samples of your products — software and hardware — should be sent to: Paul Liptrot, Home Computing Weekly, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H OEE, Phone 01-437 1002.

Fire away for £16.50

New joysticks, priced at £16.50, have been brought out for the VIC-20 and Atari 400 and 800.

They are versions of the £25 Competition-Pro joystick for the Spectrum, from Kempston (Micro) Electronics. There are eight direction commands and two fire buttons.

Kempston (Micro) Electronics, 180A Bedford Road, Kempston, Bedford MK42 8BL.

NEWS

Continued from Front Cover

they would refuse supplies

Similar conditions will apply to other software companies.

Legal action had been taken against Computer Aided Systems, the company that bought the tapes, but both CAS and the Software Centre are headed by the same man, Bill Cannings.

He has insisted that all he was doing was giving customers the opportunity to exchange programs they found unsuitable.

Quicksilva's international sales manager, Rod Cousens, said his company had been approached when legal moves got under way and decided to start talks.

He said: "We were trying to negotiate the return period down to seven days. We've got it down to one month which we feel is realistic.

"To be quite honest, we don't believe there will be a high exchange rate for Quicksilva software so it will act as a normal retail outlet. We will be watching its progress over the next few months.

"We have achieved the objects that our action was intended to achieve without incurring further costs."

New for the Spectrum

Cobra Technology, an Islingtonbased peripherals company, is working on a £40 interface for the Spectrum.

Unlike Sinclair's own £30 version, it will be switchable between RS-232 and Centronics-type.

Managing director Ray Baars said: "We've got the circuit working so now it's ready for the production line and should be on sale in a month to six weeks."

Prestel adaptors for the ZX81 and the Jupiter Ace are due to be lanuched by Cobra within the same time-scale.

Costing £40-£45, they will plug into the back of the computers.

Mr Baars said: "We've had a lot of people asking, but the trouble was that the ZX81 cannot cope properly with Pretsel's 1,200 baud. So we are putting in a 2K memory buffer so the ZX81 can take it out at about 1,000 baud."

Cobra Technology, 378 Caledonian Road, Islington, London NI IDY

Street wise to Eugene

Eugene Evans, aged 16, earns about £140 a day and gets fan mail because of his best-selling programs. But now he is being stopped in the street as well.

His face has become familiar due to national newspaper publicity. He insists, however, that success will not change him — and he is determined to stay with Liverpool's Imagine Software, where he heads a team of three programmers.

Eugene, who lives in a council house and pays £20 a week housekeeping money, said: "I've been recognised from my picture. People have said: 'I saw you in the paper — it's nice to see someone getting somewhere.""

And he pointed out: "I have worked very hard in the last few years to get to this position. I haven't had a rich mummy or daddy behind me. I come from a council estate like the rest.

"I started as a tea boy in a computer shop and you can't start much lower."

Eugene earns £17,000 a year and expects bonuses to increase this to around £35,000.

Until his bank recently relented, he was not allowed a credit card or cheque guarantee card. So to buy a video recorder he ad to draw out, £400, all in £5 notes.

He is saving much of his money to buy a house.

He said: "At the moment I haven't got a girlfriend — but that's just at the moment."

Eugene taught himself machine code programming from books and magazines and is now completing a new game for the unexpanded VIC-20, called Frantic, which simulates flying throught a tunnel on the moon while avoiding obstacles. Like all Imagine's programs, it will cost £5.50.

The programmers are named in Imagine's cassettes, so fans know who to write to. Eugene recalls one letter from a buyer of his Wacky Waiters game who wrote: "I think it's fantastic."

Imagine now produce two new games a month and soon plan to double this. Eugene said: "We want to get as big a range as possible as quickly as we can. We can sell all we make.

Imagine Software, Masons Building, Exchange Street East, Liverpool L2 3PN



Jeremy Dredge - holidays by phone

Micronet signs 1,000

More than 1,000 subscribers have signed up with the Micronet 800 database in the month since it was launched.

All have BBC micros, the first computer that can use the service. More home computer will follow.

Phone lines connect Micronet 800 users to a database

of programs and information via British Telecom's Prestel service.

The first to join was Jeremy Dredge, a Surrey estate agent, who said he had downloaded several free programs, bought two — and booked two holidays.

Micronet 800, Bushfield House, Orton Centre, Peterborough PE2 0UW

You could be on our pages

We welcome programs and articles from our readers.

e Articles on using home computers should be no longer than 2,000 words. Don't worry too much about your writing ability — just try to keep to the style in HCW. Please include sample routines. We will convert any sketched illustrations into finished artwork. Articles most likely to be published will help our readers make better use of their micros by giving useful ideas and

 Programs should, if possible, be computer printed (use a new ribbon) or sent on cassette. Check carefully that they are bug-free. Include details of what your program does and how, hints on conversion and explain the routines

Reviewers of software, add-ons and hardware need to have a good knowledge of computers. In your application as a reviewer please give your occupation or training and, if under 21, your age. Don't forget to name your computer and any expansion.

Keep a copy of your submissions and include an SAE if you want them returned. Label everything clearly and give a daytime and home phone number if you can

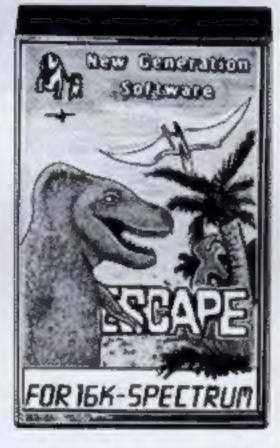
Paul Liptrot, Home Computing Weekly, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H

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Our range already covers some 65 programs. And it's growing fast.

So fast that every month we select and illustrate a Top Ten to

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(all 16K programs will run on 48K machines)

Title	Producer K	RAM	Price
Arcade Games			1
Space Intruders	Quicksilva	16	£4.95
Time Gate	Quicksilva	48	£6.95
Mined Out	Quicksilva	48	£4.95
Gulpman	Campbell	16	£4.95
Spectral Invaders	Bug-Byte	16	£5.00
Avenger	Abacus	16	£4.95
Meteoroids	Softek	16	£4.95
Planetoids	Sinclair	16	£4.95
Hungry Horace	Sinclair	16	£5.95
Mazeman	Abersoft	16	£4.95
Nightflight	Hewson	48	£5.95
Ground Force Zero	Titan	16	£5.00
Caterpillar	CDS	16	£5.95
Leapfrog	CDS	16	£5.95
Gobble-A-Ghost	CDS	16	£5.95
Centi-Bug	DK Tronics	16	£4.95
3D-Tanx	DK Tronics	16	£4.95
Penetrator	Melbourne Hse	48	£6.95
Cruising	Sunshine	16	£4.95
Arcadia	Imagine	16	£5.50
Derby Day	Computer Renta	ls 16	£5.95
Jackpot	Computer Renta		£4.95
3D-Tunnel	New Generation	- 2	£4.95
Gobbleman	Artic	16	£4.95
Galaxians	Artic	16	£4.95
Sentinal	Abacus	16	£4.95
Cyber Rats	Silversoft	16	£5.95
Strategy Games			
Novotnik Puzzle	Phipps	16	£4.95
Chess	Artic	48	£9.45
Voice Chess	Artic	48	£9.95
Football Manager	Addictive	48	£6.95
Chess-The Turk	Oxford	48	£8.95
Adventure			
Labyrinth	Axis	16	£5.95
Planet of Death	Sinclair	48	£6.95
Inca Curse	Sinclair	48	£6.95
Ship of Doom	Artic	48	£6.95
Espionage Island	Artic	48	£6.95
Th. O.L.	Commutar Posts	1- 40	CEOE

keep you informed of the programs which are proving to be the most popular.

If on the other hand you've already got the Top Ten then why not come in and browse through



Chess Sinclair 48K

The Hobbit Sinclair 48K £14.95 plus book

Title	Producer	KRAM	Price
Utility			
M/C Code Test Tool	Oxford	16	£9.95
Compiler	Softek	16	£14.95
Family Games			
Reversi	Sinclair	16	£7.95
Othello	CDS	16	£5.95
Golf	R and R	16	£3.75
Conflict	Martech	48	£11.95
Practical			
Vu-Calc	Sinclair	16	£8.95
Vu-File	Sinclair	16	£8.95
Vu-3D	Sinclair	48	£9.95
Collectors Pack	Sinclair	48	£9.95
Club Record Controller	Sinclair	48	£9.95
Address Manager	Oxford	16	£8.95
Dietron	Custom Data	16	£4.75
Program Collections			
Shiva Special 1	Shiva	16	£5.95
Over The Spectrum 1	Melbourne Hs	e 16	£5.95
Over The Spectrum 2	Melbourne Hs		£5.95
Over The Spectrum 3	Melbourne Hs	100	£5.95
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£5.95

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As featured on ITV

SPECTRUM

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HCW6

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HULL, N. HUMBERSIDE,

16K Orics 'Weeks away'

Long-awaited Oric-1s are now promised within 10 weeks.

Mail order customers were being sent 48K models on loan with an option to purchase at a cut price — but Oric Products has not yet decided on the discount.

New managing director Barry Muncaster, a director of Oric-1 designers Tangerine Computer Systems, gave two reasons for the delay of more than six months.

First, out of every 10 orders eight — totalling 350,000 this year — were for the 48K version. Oric had to put all its efforts into meeting this demand "which exceeded all expectations."

The 16K model, at 5p under £100, is £70 cheaper than the 48K version. A 32K model has been abandoned.

Oric Products has now ended sales by post, saying its mail order backlog is down to 28 days and that the 48K Oric is readily available at retailers.

But orders by mail — including the £79 modem — can still be made to Tangerine at the same Ely address as Tansoft, which is bringing out a range of Oric programs. An extended BBC-like BASIC is also promised soon.

Oric Products International, Coworth Park, London Road, Sunninghill, Berks SL5 7SE.

Tangerine Computer Systems, 3 Club Mews, Ely, Cambs. CB7 4NW

Learning about micros

Teachers are running a computer fair in Leeds for people interested in computing in education.

It will be held at the John Taylor Teachers' Centre on June 22, 9.30am-7.30pm, and include lectures as well as exhibits with working demonstrations.

Computer Development Team, John Taylor Teachers' Centre, 53 Headingley Lane, Leeds LS6 1AA.

Bumper batch

Quicksilva is launching a total of 14 programs in one batch — more than some software companies bring out in a year.

Ranging in price from £3.95 to £14.95, they will be on sale in about 10 days.

There are two arcade games, a graphics adventure and a word processor for the Spectrum, three aracade games and two adventures for the ZX81, one Dragon game, an arcade game for the VIC-20 and two arcade games and a mucis processor for the BBC micro.

The Dragon game is a version of Mined-Out, first written for the Spectrum, and one of the Spectrum games is Trader, a version of the VIC-20 best seller.

Quicksilva, 13 Palmerstone Road, Southampton, Hants SOI 1LL

will this

boom turn into gloom?

Without doubt the greatest understatement in the computer world is that it is undergoing a boom.

Not since the record industry in the 60's era of the Beatles has our economy seen such growth in a single sector. What can only be described as amateur businesses have grown, without heavy financial backing or trained management into substantial companies.

Ninety per cent of the minds behind our flourishing software world wouldn't stand a Pac-man's chance in Hell of running a clothing factory. But this isn't the same kind of industry. It is in the main, that rare animal the sellers' market.

If a company produced a beautiful dress, after a lot of door-knocking, phone ringing, singing and, dancing, promises and favours, and possibly bribery and corruption, it might find it was selling its product and making a reasonable profit.

On the other hand, produce a first rate commercial program, scrawl the details on the underside of a park bench in the Shetlands, retire to an Andes mountain retreat and you can still begin drawing up plans for you yacht or tax haven mansion.

Around this innovative and exciting atmosphere of new invention and rapid growth, there are an increasing amount of disquieting voices who whisper, "It'll be all over soon", "the end of the software world is nigh "the end of the software world is nigh "just wait until..."

Human nature is once more showing us the future. In every affluent society, there are always the jobs, the more affluent and secure, the greater their number.

The more secure the prospect, the more it seems people need to feel insecure.

The corollary of this is when everyone agrees that something can only and must only go in one direction, be that boom or slump, it is a sure sign the opposite will soon happen.

The only aspect of the computer market that everyone agrees on, is that no-one agrees about anything.

What the doomsters have not yet thought about and which is a more fertile area for concern is: What will computers do to us? Wh at by their logical training are they turning us into?

Will we become a breed of logical Vulcans or a race of computer introverts, content only with the mental stimulation of playing by ourselves? Program zombie or mental super-men/wonder-women, which is it to be?

Which are you becoming?

Clement Chambers Managing director, Computer Rentals

• This space is for you to sound off about the micro scene, to air your bouquets or brickbats. Share your views by sending them to: Paul Liptrot, Opinion, Home Computing Weekly, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H OEE. Please include your occupation and your interest in computing.

Top Twenty programs for the Spectrum

1 The Hobbit 2 Football Manager 3 Transylvanian Tower

4 Compiler 5 Penetrator

6 VU-3D 7 Time Gate

8 3D Tunnel 9 Voice Chess

10 Hungry Horace

11 Conflict

12 Flight Simulation

13 Night Flight 14 Horace Goes Skiing

15 Arcadia

16 Planet of Death 17 VU File

18 Derby Day 19 Golf

20 Spectral Invaders

Melbourne House (1) Addictive Games (-)

Richard Shepherd (-)

Softek (-)

Melbourne House (7) Psion (10)

Quicksilva (5)

New Generation (-)

Artic (-) Psion/M, House (3)

Murtech (—) Psion (2) Hewson (15)

Psion/M. House (—) Imagine (12)

Artic (13) Psion (16)

Computer Rentals (-)

R & R (-) Bugbyte (-)

Compiled by W. H. Smith. Figures in brackets show last week's position.

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SATURDAY 23 (10am — 6pm)

THURSDAY 21 (12am - 7pm)

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ASTEROIDS, INVADERS, ASTRO SLED & SPACE FIGE



A classic version of the clasic game. Feature pecked with thrust, hyperspace, rotate, multiple bolts, etc. This exciting program is written in m/c and employs to-res graphics and maximum effect.





ASTRO SLED

Pilot your high powered sled down the jagged space canyon, but he warned - the further you travel, the harder it getsi With over 80 skill levels -







complete without this, the original cosmic shootout. In machine code with three invader types (plus mother ship), borus beses, hi-res. double size screen, etc.



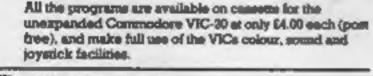


SPACE FIGHTE

A space dog-fight simulator which, like Asteroids. is written in machine code and uses hi res. Quide your fighter through tight loops and turns to centre the elusive alien craft in your sights. Wish 10 skill levels.







ZX81 SOFTWARE

SPACE FIGHTER, AFTRO SLED.

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Colour it deadly — unless you destroy the subs

My colourful Seabattle game for the ZX Spectrum first asks you for a level of difficulty, from one to 10 but you can also enter decimal. numbers if you want to progress gradually.

Then the screen shows a cyan sky with blue water. On the surface is your magenta-coloured ship and below is a green submarine. You fire yellow bombs and the sub has green torpedoes.

Your object is to destroy as many subs as possible. Each time you have bombed one another will come up. This continues until your ship is destroyed by one of the torpedoes.

You can't drop a new bomb before the previous one has disappeared and it's the same for torpedoes.

To move right press m and to move left press n. Press z to drop a bomb. Press zero to stop game, 1 for a new game with same grade of difficulty and 2 for new game with new grade of difficulty. This might be difficult to read on the sureen

Thave used the function IN to read the keyboard and OUT for when your ship is hit for a specfacular display and some radom beeps.

How it works

0-600initialise variables. ask for difficulty, set up screen 1000-1030 player's move 2000-2100 submarine's move and whether to shoot torpedo



Seabattle, a multi-coloured game for the Spectrum, comes from Erik Sanderson in Oslo. Imagine you're fighting in the

fjords. ...

2200-2210

2215-2235

300-3020

move, dependent on difficulty level sub's move up and down screen,

random sub

which seldom happens. If number of hits is greater than four

then sub only moves upwards print bomb on

way down

3100-3020 print bomb on way down are used when sub-3100-3135

> is hit. You will hear bleeps and it

then returns to line 10

print torpedo on 4000-4090 way to surface

4100-4130 are used when your ship is hit

> and game is over. Note OUT statement

9000-9220 define graphics (called from line

Variables

a and b are your ship's coordinates.

e and b its last co-ordinates y, x, ey and ex are the same for the submarine

e and d are co-ordinates for your bomb

v and w are same for torpedo hits is your number of hits high is high scores number of hits i is your grade of difficulty hi is the high scores grade of difficulty.

SPECTRUM PROGRAM

```
1 REM Seabattle
     2 REM ® Erik Sandersen
      4 LET high=@ LET hi=@
     5 GO SUB 9000
     6 INPUT "Grade of difficulty
  (1-10)"
        IF 1 <1 OR 1 > 10 THEN GO TO 5
     9 LET hits=0
    10 LET a=10: LET b=15
    20 LET eb=b
    30 RANDOMIZE : LET y=INT (RND*
  S+16): LET X=INT (RND+28)
    40 LET ey=y: LET ex=x
        LET C=0: LET V=0
       BORDER 7: PAPER 5: CLS
  510 BORDER 7: PAPE
514 PRINT AT 11,0;
   $15 FOR n=11 TO 21
   520 PRINT INK 1;"
   525 NEXT n
   549 REM Graphic A,B,C in next l
  ine
   550 PRINT INK 3; AT a, b; "----"
500 PRINT INK 0; AT 0,0; "HITS."
 hits,"Grade:"
  1000 REM Players
                      move
  1001 IF ebes THEN PRINT AT a eb
  1002 REM Graphic A,B,C in next l
 ine
  1003 IF boeb THEN PRINT INK 3; AT
   a , b ; "audi "
  1004 REM Graphic I,J,K in next t
 ine
 1865 IF 5466 THEN PRINT INK 3;AT
 1006 LET eb=b
1010 LET b=b+(IN 32765=187 AND b
(29)-(IN 32765=183 AND b>0)
 1020 IF IN 65278=189 AND C=0 THE
 N LET c=11: LET d=b+1: GO 5UB 30
 1030 IF ( )@ THEN GO 5UB 3880
 2000 REM submarine move
 2005 IF RND>1/10 THEN GD TO 2200
       IF SCREENS (y-1,x) (>" "THE
 2010
 N IF X (26 THEN LET X = X +1: GO TO
 2011 IF SCREEN$ (9-1,x+2) <>" " THEN LET x=x-1: GO TO
 2037
  2037
 2012 IF SCREEN$ (y-2,x+1) <>" " THEN LET x=x+(x(=15)-(x>15): GD T
 0 2037
 2020 IF X (b THEN IF SCREENS (y-1, X+3) =" " THEN IF SCREENS (y-2, X
 +2) =" "
          THEN LET X=X+1
X>5 THEN IF SCREENS (9-1
 *X-1) ="
             THEN IF SCREENS (y-2, X
 G" " THEN LET
                   z = x = x
 2037 IF RND).85 THEN GO TO 2220
 2039 REM Graphic D.E.F in next t
 ine
 2040 PRINT PAPER 1; AT ey, ex;"
    PRINT PAPER 1; INK 7; AT 9, X; "
 2050 LET ey=y: LET ex=x
 2060 IF V (>0 THEN GO SUB 4000
 2070 IF V=0 AND (x=b DR x=b+1 DR
          THEN LET V=y: LET W=X+1:
  メニレーエル
  GC SUB 4888
 2100 GO TO 1000
 2200 IF RND).5 AND X (28 THEN LET
          GO TO 2215
  x = x + 1:
          X >0 THEN LET X=X-1
 2210 IF
 2215 IF RND (.85 THEN GO TO 2040
2220 IF RND > 5 AND U 20 AND hits

45 THEN LET YEU+1: GO TO 2040

2230 IF Y>11 THEN IF SCREEN$ (U-2)

3,X+1) = "THEN IF SCREEN$ (U-2)
X) =" " THEN IF SCREENS (9-2, X+2)
 " " THEN LET 9=9-1
2235 GO TO 2040
 3000 REM drop bomb
3003 LET C=C+1
3005 IF ATTR (c,d)=15 THEN GO TO
 3110
3989 REM Graphic G in next tine
3010 PRINT PAPER 1;AT c-1,d;"
```

PRINT PAPER 1; INK 6; AT c,d; "=" 3020 IF CON THEN PRINT PAPER 1;A 3100 RETURN 3105 REM hit the submarine 3110 PRINT PAPER 1; AT c-1,d; " " 3115 LET hits=hits+1 3120 PRINT PAPER 1; INK 7; FLASH 1;AT 9,x;"800M" 3125 FOR J=0 TO 5 3130 BEEP .01,RND #50 3135 NEXT 3200 GD TO 10 1000 REM submarine torpedo 4005 LET V=V-1 4010 IF ATTR (V, W) =43 THEN GO TO 4100 4020 IF VOYENT PAPER 1, AT V+1, W; 4025 PRINT PAPER 1; INK 4; AT V, W 4030 IF V=10 THEN PRINT AT V, W; " LET V=0 4090 RETURN 4100 REM game over 4103 IF ATTR (V+1, W) (>15 THEN PR INT PAPER 1; AT V+1, W; " " 4105 PRINT AT a, b-1;" 4107 IF hits>high OR hits=high A ND ishi THEN LET bigh=bits: LET bi =i 4108 PRINT INK Ø; AT 0,9; "HIGH 50 ORE "; high; " grade: "; high; " drade: "; hi 4110 PRINT INK 3; FLASH 1; AT a, b "BOOH" 4115 PRINT INK 0; AT 3,0; "A Dew 9 ame? (yes: 1 no: 0) " ' "To change difficulty Press 2" 4120 BEEP .01,RND+50 4122 DUT 254, RND+8 INKEY = "2" THEN GO TO 9 4125 IF 4126 4127 IF INKEY = "2" THEN GO TO 5 9000 REM define graphics 9010 FOR J=0 TO 7: READ q: POKE 9020 DRTA 6,0,0,80,112,255,255,1 27 9030 FOR j=0 TO 7: READ q: POKE USR "5"+j,q: NEXT 9040 DATA 0,0,7,63,255,255,255 9050 FOR j=0 TO 7: READ q: POKE USR "C"+j,q: NEXT j 9060 DATA 0,32,224,226,236,255,2 54,252 9070 FOR J=0 TO 7: READ 4: POKE USR "D"+j,q: NEXT ; 255,255,255,255, 127 9090 FOR J=0 TO 7: READ 4: POKE USA "E"+j,4: NEXT ; 9100 DATA 16,126,126,255,255,255 , 255, 255 9110 FOR JEG TO 7: READ Q: PORE 9120 DATA 0,0,0,254,255,255,255, 254 9130 FOR J=0 TO 7: READ 9: POKE USR "G"+,,q: NEXT 9140 DATA 0,0,0,253,255,253,0,0 9150 FOR j=0 TO 7. READ 9: PORE USR "H"+,,q: NEXT 9160 DATA 16,56,124,124,124,124, 15 124 9170 FOR J=0 TO 7: READ 9: POKE USR "I"+j,q: NEXT J 9180 DATA 0,4,7,39,55,255,127,63 9190 FOR J=0 TO 7: READ q: POKE USR "U"+J,q: NEXT" 9200 DATA 0,0,0,224,252,255,255, 255 9210 FOR J=0 TO 7: READ q: POKE USR "K"+),q: NEXT ; 9220 DATA 0,0,0,10,14,255,255,25 3999 RETURN

DRAGON SOFTWARE REVIEWS

Into battle with your Dragon

Three games of cunning and daring for the Dragon. Our reviewers report back from the front line — with star ratings

CC Poker Dragon 32 E7.95

Compusense, PO Box 169, Palmers Green, London N13.

I'm no card sharp, but I was pleasantly surprised by this game Card games appeal to me for their ability to engage people in a subtle battle of wits. How does a computer overcome this?

After entering your name you are sitting at the table pitted against Rocky, Harry and Sam I would suspect some conspiracy if I didn't know better

The fast flow of action, assisted by machine language subroutines, maintains an air of tension. Sound effects cunningly imitate card handling and highlight other aspects of the game

You start with a stake of \$100 (it's an import from America by

Spectral Associates) and the object is to double your money. No previous experience necessary. All players' stakes are displayed, added to and, of course, taken away. You may start the guilible sucker, but as you learn you have a fifty-fifty chance of success.

On higher levels of difficulty (there are five) you increase the frequency of bluffing and the limit of betting — you win more, you loose more!

it's the neat graphics which captivated me. The display of information was clear and involved me as a player in this confrontation. An absorbing game which has addictive potential — the sting in any game!

	7484E -	
unstructions	90%	
playability	90%	
graphics	90%	
value for money	100%	





C-Trek Dragon £7.95

Compusense, PO Box 169, Palmers Green, London N13

Just as we were gaining on the advancing invaders, we now are showered by klingons. Klingon-bashing is fast becoming a popular pastime for those who remember immortal phrases like "More thrust Scottie" and "I dinna think she'll take any more!"

This is an American version distributed by Compusense. It came all presented in a plastic bag containing a full sheet of instructions clearly set out. Loading was straightforward.

The commands for the game are given in three easily mastered letter codes. You see the Enterprise (a letter E) on a black sector of space. Movement is achieved by reference to compass directions—a little awkward at first because

you have to keep in mind both where you want to go and any obstructions there might be.

There are no increasing levels of difficulty, which could reduce the game's long-term appeal. Instead, a random procedure gives you a target of between 13 and 26 Klingons. Various starbases replenish essential supplies.

Very little in the way of graphics — only the Short Range Scan shows any action. The rest of the time you are kept busy navigating, doing battle, repairing and checking.

Enjoyable at first, but weak graphics, and poor staying-power.

	41828 8
astructions	90%
layability	80%
raphics	10%
alue for money	50%

M.P.



Space Race Dragon £7.95

Compusense, PO Box 169, Palmers Green, London N13

In Space Race you do battle against four different kinds of marauding alien, each with different actions and values. The 16 levels of play start fast — and go up to extremely fast.

You start the game with four ships, and every 10,000 points you get another one, up to a maximum of five. Your remaining ships are displayed below the track on the right, with the score on the left

If you're feeling competitive, there's a high-score league table catering for up to nine entries.

Written in machine code, Space Race can be played using either joystick or keys. I tried both methods. Though it is possible to get a reasonable score using keys, the aliens are at an even greater advantage.

Personally, I found the sound effects annoying, but otherwise the game was fun to play, and addictive too. No loading problems, and comprehensive instructions are included

	3.03.
instructions	70%
playability	70%
graphics	60%
value for money	80%



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All books in the series are £5 95 (incl. postage).

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TI-99/4A PROGRAM

Ever fancied being a knight in shining armour? Here's your chance as you strive to rescue the maiden in distress from the black magician's castle

Move your knight using the four arrow keys (ESDX) with the alpha-lock button down. One problem — the evil magician is throwing large boulders at you. If you are hit by, or bump into one, you fail.

A game of strategy and quick reactions, this game, although written for the Texas TI-99/4A, should be easily translatable for any computer with user-defined characters

The difficulty of the game can be increased by changing the loop count in line 260.

How it works

clears screen
set screen colour
to cyan
user defined
characters
set up initial screen
initialise variables
look at keyboard
swap old and new
positions
find direction
look at screen in
new position
test for special
situations
move knight
swap updated
positions
throw rock
subroutine

Up you get... and into battle

from Jabberwocky

760-790

810-840

850-880

Make a knight of it, there's a maiden in distress

Now's your chance to be a hero. All you have to do is rescue a maiden from the clutches of the evil black magician. Vince Apps' program is for the TI-99/4A

main program loop

play music

message

print success

910-1000

1020-1120

1140-1180

CALL CHAR (number, hexadecimal string) - Controls the

sound*

user definition of characters. Number refers to the ASCII code of the re-defined character. CALL HCHAR (row, column,

Hints on conversion

Texas Basic has some unusual

commands for graphics and

number) — This prints the character whose ASCII code is number at position row, column on the screen. The T199/4A has a screen size of 24 rows by 32 columns.

CALL GCHAR (row, column, variable) - This is the equivalent of PEEK. The ASCII code of the character at position row, column on the screen is left in the designated variable.

CALL SOUND (d. f. v) -Sounds a note of frequency f. duration d milliseconds and volume v

CALL KEY (O, K, S) — T199 equivalent of INKEYS. Call key will leave the ASCII code of the



crashed into rock

simulation of print

hit by rock

@ routine

TI-99/4A PROCRAM

```
108 REM
110 REM
         RESCUE
120 REM
130 REM
140 REM V.H. APPS
150 REM
160 CALL CLEAR
178 CALL SCREEN(8)
180 RANDOMIZE
190 REM DEFINE CHRRACTERS
200 CALL CHAR(120, "AAFFFF86FFFB6FE")
210 CALL CHAR(121, "AAFEFEDAFEDR7E7E")
220 CALL CHAR(128,"08081C2A2A081414")
230 CALL CHAR(144, "387EFFFFFFFFFFF")
240 CRLL COLOR(15,13,1)
250 REM SET UP SCREEN
260 FOR J=1 TO 186
270 R1=INT(RND*38+3)
280 R2=INT(RND*23+2)
290 CALL HCHAR(R2,R1,144)
300 NEXT J
310 CALL HCHAR(1,30,120)
320 CRLL HCHAR(1,31,121)
338 CALL HCHRR(24,5,128)
348 MRN=24
350 MRO=24
360 MCD=5
370 MCN#5
388 GOTO 778
390 REM MOVE MAN
400 CALL KEY(0,K,S)
410 MRH=MRO
420 MCN=MCO
430 IF K<>83 THEN 450
448 MCN=MCN-1
450 IF K<>68 THEN 470
460 MCN=MCN+1
470 IF K<>69 THEN 490
480 MRN=MRN-1
490 IF K<>88 THEN 510
500 MRN=MRN+1
510 IF (MCN(3)+(MCN)32)+(MRN(1)+(MRN)24)THEN 638
520 CALL GCMAR(MRN,MCN,X)
530 IF X=32 THEN 570
540 IF (X=120)+(X=121)THEN 810
550 IF X=144 THEN 910
560 GOTO 630
570 IF (MRN#MRD)*(MCN=MCD)THEN 630
500 CALL HCHAR(MRO/MCO,32)
590 CALL SOUND(100,330,2)
600 CALL HCHAR(MRN, MCN, 128)
618 MRO-MRN
628 MCO-MCN
630 RETURN
648 REM THROW ROCK
650 R1=INT(RND*12)+MRQ-6
660 IF (R1)24)+(R1(1)THEN 650
678 R2*INT(RND*12)+MCG~6
680 IF (R2)32)+(R2(3)THEN 670
690 CALL GCHAR(R1,R2,X)
700 IF X=32 THEN 730
710 IF X=128 THEN 1030
720 IF (X=120)+(X=121)THEN 750
730 CALL SOUND(50,160,3)
740 CALL HCHAR(R1,R2,144)
750 RETURN
760 REM MAIN LOOP
770 GOSUB 400
780 GDSUB 650
790 GOTO 770
800 REM SUCCESS
810 CALL SOUND(500,330,2)
820 CALL SOUND(500,450,2)
830 CALL SQUND(500,360,2)
840 CALL SCUND(900,500,2)
850 M#="YOU MADE IT !!"
660 X=10
870 GOSJ8 1150
880 GD$U8 1210
890 IMPUT "PLAY AGRIN? ":Q$
```

910 FOR J≃1 TO 10 920 CALL HCHAR(MRO,MCO,32) 930 CALL SOUND(100,-5,2) 940 CALL HCHAR(MRO,MCO,128) 950 NEXT J 960 REM WRONG TURNING 970 Ms="YOU CRASHED !!" 990 X=10 990 GOSUB 1150 1000 GOSUB 1210 1018 GOTO 898 1020 REM ROCK HIT 1030 MS="S P L A T !!" 1040 X=11 1050 FOR J=1 TO 18 1060 CALL HCHAR(MRO,MCO,32) 1070 CRLL HCHRR(MRO,MCO,144) 1080 CALL SOUND(100,220,2) 1090 NEXT J 1100 GOSUB 1150 1110 GOSUB 1210 1120 GOTO 890 1130 END 1140 REM PRINT AT 1150 FOR J=1 TO LEN(M\$) 1160 CH=ASC(SEGO(MO,J,1)) 1170 CALL HCHAR(11,X+J,CH) 1180 NEXT J 1190 RETURN 1200 REM DELAY 1219 FOR D=1 TO 200 1220 NEXT D 1230 RETURN



900 IF SEC#(Q#,1,1)="N" THEN 1130 ELSE 160

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original machine code games) Zac Man plus Space Invaders (2 arcade (ype games))

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PROFILE

Mike Fitzgerald still remembers the first order A & F Software ever had. He said: "I opened it, and there was a cheque for £4.95. I felt great. It really felt like we were beginning. And we're still enjoying the business now".

A & F placed the ad that started it all back in November 1981. The company then consisted of Mike Fitzgerald and Doug Anderson, who had both been made redundant in the great ICL reorganisation.

Mike had been a mainframe engineer at ICL, while Doug had been a programmer working on design automation.

With some of his redundancy money. Make had bought an Atom - but didn't think much of the software that was around for it at the time. So he and Doug decided to see if they could do better.

They started off with Early Warning and Polecat, two programs for the Atom. They made fifty copies of each, and invested £250 in ads. "Within the week, we had to do 100 more of each. After that, we never looked back".

A & F was initially run from Mike's boxroom and Doug's flat. Now, with a staff of nine, it has a showroom and offices at 830 Hyde Road, Gorton, Manchester, about a mile from Bellevue.

Mike now concentrates on sales and administration. Doug still writes programs, and has now been joined by programmers Andrew Houston, Martin Hickling, and Allan Samuel.

Mike O'Neill helps out in the showroom and takes care of



Doug Anderson — still writing programs

in the beginning was the Atom

From its early days of selling two programs from a box room, A & F Software aims to end up among the top five software companies. Candice Goodwin talks to Mike Fitzgerald and finds out how and why he thinks he can get to the top



Mike Fitzgerald — remembers the first cheque

tape duplicating, while Tim Kay | programs are supplied on disk looks after advertising. Jane Ashton deals with mail order, and Susan, on the secretarial side, completes the team. A & F also has six freelance programmers.

From the first two programs, A & F's range has now built up to 23 titles, for the BBC, Spectrum, Oric and Dragon as well as the Atom. "If it hadn't been for the Atom, we might never have started. So we'll continue to support it at least for the next 12 months."

The range is mainly arcadestyle and adventure games, though there is a data management system for the Spectrum, and some small business programs may be in the pipeline for the BBC and Dragon.

Prices range from £4.70 to £11.50, and some of the BBC

as well as on cassette. Disks for the Dragon are coming soon.

With the mushrooming of the software market, many software companies are having trouble getting their programs duplicated quickly. Not so A &

"We looked into this very carefully and decided to invest some money in a duplicating set-up. We can do 30,000 tapes a week

"It means that we don't have any delays from suppliers, and we have a very low reject rate - we do real-time rather than high-speed copying."

Having its own duplicating facility also means that the company can react quickly when hardware companies change specifications at short notice.

"We feel we've got an advantage over other companies in that we've got a wealth of experience in manufacturing as well as programming. We can catch problems and solve them as soon as they start."

Most of A & F's full-time programmers are in their midtwenties, though some of the freelancers are still at school "They're from all walks of life, really. Martin Hickling worked for eight years at Ferranti, but Andrew Houston is self-taught. I think that programming is something you're gifted with".

A & F's programmers tend to be a bit older than the average home micro software writer because "we go for the stability. We like to direct our progammers rather than let them just go off on their own"

"What we try to do is treat each program as a project. Each programmer has his own project to work on, and it's reviewed all the way along. It always has a final aim at the end.

That way, it avoids individual idiosyncracies creeping into the program. You don't get an idea that looks great to begin with but never gets anywhere "

Where do they get ideas for programs from? "We try to take ideas from life in general - there's nothing fixed. It'll generally happen that we'll be having a meeting or something and someone'll have a brainstorm."

One idea that was taken from life was Painter, a game in which the player tries to spray paint round a series of pots



Martin Hickling, programmer

PROFILE

while being chased by maneating paint rollers. Mike Fitzgerald says that this is the game he plays most.

"But my favourite game of all time is one of our lowest sellers - a game called Robot for the Atom, It's well written, it's got humour and everything We've had some lovely letters about it. But for some reason it. never really caught on"

A & F has not found that customers are put off by games they do not recognise. "We haven't had any trouble selling any of our software. Word of mouth gets along fairly quickly. As long as your product's good, you won't have any problem selling it".

Mike feels it is important, though, to take time in developing each idea. A & F's games take on average two-four months from the initial concept through to the finished product.

"We could have brought Painter out after a month, but we felt that by holding it up for a while we'd get the necessary support. Every game we produce, we aim to be better than the last game".



Programmer Allan Samuel



Jane Ashton — looks after postal sales

Mike sees the market for computer games continuing to hold up for a long time yet. "There will always be room for good games. Each game has a life of only nine to 15 months, plus four to five months' playing time."

But he doesn't think the present boom will continue indefinitely. "Some companies are getting rich quickly. Those companies won't be around in 12 months time."

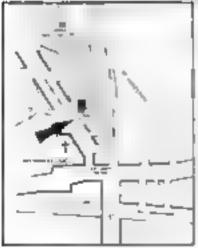
A & F itself started 1983 with projected turnover of £1.3 million - and had to alter that to £2 million shortly afterwards. But Mike says that "not much" of that will be pure profit -"most of the profits will be ploughed back into the business."

"We would like to be doing the same job in thirty years time - we're trying to make a career of it. We do things properly because in 12 months time there'll only be ten to fifteen major software compames and 20 or so minor companies around.

"We intend to be among the top five companies."

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SPECTRUM SOFTWARE REVIEWS

SUPERCHESS II

CP Software, 17 Orchard Lane, Prestwood, Bucks HP16 ONN.

"Guaranteed able to beat Sargon II and all other Spectrum chess programs." That's the impressive claim made by CP Software in adverts for its new Superchess program, for the 48K Spectrum.

When put to the test, the game did beat several other chess programs, including one for the Acom Atom and another for the BBC micro. There are seven levels of play, numbered 0 to 6, the first four being fast enough for tournament chess, and even in level 0 it takes a lot of beating.

Response time is fast, with an average of about three seconds in level 0. However, as in any chess game, the overall response time depends on the complexity of the board layout.

Screen layout and method of entering moves is standard. Both the computer's and your last 10 or so moves are displayed on the screen during play, but unfortunately there is no facility for printing these out or saving the game halfway through.

One nice feature is the ability to change the colours of the board according to your own taste. I found the best combination was red and cyan pieces on a black and white board

Like most computer chess games nowadays, Superchess will suggest a move for you if the going gets tough, it will even play itself, at any level, if you ask it to.

An analyse facility allows you to rearrange the board for chess problems etc. At one point, while I was losing a game, I switched to analyse mode and removed all the computer's pieces from the board. Not to be deterred, Superchess simply moved one of my pieces.

The menu of features available on demand includes "tec", short for technical information, which gives a short description of the algorithm for the computer's moves. Small things like this show how much thought has gone into this program. Excellent value for money, and highly recommended.

and ingality severialization	1.0.
instructions	90%
playability	90%
graphics	95%
value for money	90%

And now for something slightly different...

As a change from arcade games, we review four programs which offer a different challenge. But do they deliver the goods? Our panel gives you its verdicts

Pointer ES.75

A & F Software, 830 Hyde Road, Gorton, Manchester M18 7JD,

A very good game, this — the trouble is, it might just remind you of those outstanding home decorating jobs you should be doing instead of sitting about playing computer games.

You are Painter Patrick. Your job is to spray paint round 24 pots of paint standing in a room, while trying to evade capture by a decorator-eating paint-roller.

Each pot you surround recharges your dwindling paint supply. As each room is completed the screen clears and the game re-starts. But you are now pursued by more paint rollers.

You move around the room using the O and P keys for left and

right and Q and A for up and down — a convenient arrangement, I found. You can also press H to suspend the game while you draw breath or take a worker's tea break.

A score recording facility enables inter-decorator competition.

The program loaded easily and I found the on-screen instructions easy to follow. Arcadequality graphics, and good use of sound to simulate aerosols puffing and paint rollers laughing as you tumble to the floor.

Great fun — recommended D.J.

instructions	80%
playability	85%
graphics	85%
value for money	75%



Telleen Cales

Jaysoft, 6 Wentworth Drive, Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

Following a spate of financial modelling games for the Spectrum comes Taipan, a simulation of the ins and outs of Oriental trading, with the aim of accumulating the princely sum of \$1,000,000.

Money is earned by buying and selling various products such as arms, silk, opium, women(!) and general provisions. Goods can be bought cheaply at one of the five far-eastern ports and then sold at a profit at one of the other ports.

Sounds easy, but of course to put a damper on things a particularly nasty piece of work known as Sum Yan (the money lender) is clamouring for your debt of £5,000 (used to buy your junk) to be repaid with hefty interest.

Should Sum Yan become unpatient, he will not hesitate to send the boys round, and all your hard-earned cash will be gone. Other hazards include storms while travelling from port to port, and jettisoning of goods to prevent your junk from sinking

There are three levels of play, from beginner to financial wizard, but the last is the only level really worth playing. Rather repetitive, the same financial tactics applying

to nearly every game with little change in the structure of play.

65%

instructions 65% playability 50% presentation 40% value for money 50%



Venture £6

G & J Bobker, 29 Chadderton Drive, Unsworth, Bury, Lancs

Although the full game is written for 48K, one side of the cassette has been recorded for the 16K machine, with a second loading to play the last three games.

Both sides of the tape loaded first time with no trouble. All the instructions are on the screen, and I found them very easy to follow.

You are given £1,000 and the opportunity to increase the amount by playing a total of seven games. In the first, you bet on which of three ducks will finish a race first.

Game number two is a fruit machine type where you are given 10 "pulls" of the handle... this is where you can win a bob or two.

The third is a simple treasure hunt using a grid with hints given on which direction to take. In game four, Mastercode, you have to guess a four-digit code set by the computer. Fifthly, you have to keep a car on a winding road, and the amount of time on the track represents a percentage of £1000 added to your hopefully increasing total. Game number 6 gives you a chance to bomb a ZX81 keyboard, and wipe it off the screen... it can be done.

Last but not least is an adventure game set in a maze where you can gather gold. First you must fight off some fearsome monsters with such diverse 'weapons' as cheese, fish, and would you believe, an oil can. This is the game where your fate is decided.

A compendium of simple games strung together to make a game which I am sure will appeal to a wide age group But for £6, a little overpriced.

instructions		90%
playability		85%
graphics		50%
value for money	40	40%

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HCW6

Advice from an

I read with great interest about the problems of your correspondents (probably first-time computer buyers) regarding delivery of products by micro manufacturers. Perhaps some advice from an old hand in computing who has had similar problems is wanted:

1 Don't believe all you read

2 If your order for a product is not delivered within the time specified cancel it and buy something else—the high streets are awash with computers

The real reason for this state of affairs is that manufacturers advertise a product they have not even produced, get the customers' money and then make it. So in effect customers are financing companies with cheap capital and a way of testing the market for demand, hence the long delivery delays.

Your publication, as a weekly magazine with short copy dates, is a welcome addition to computing if only to help stop false promises by some companies as to theor products' suitably, available and claims.

It can end the subsequent blame put about that their advertising has to be placed months before the product is available as an excuse for delivery problems.

A 28-day delivery promise often turns into a four-month wait. This is unacceptable. A customer should have his/her computer or whatever in 10 working days.

Finally, regarding advertising claims:

1 The Oric-1 is advertised as having 16 colours. Not true, it only has eight

2 Software available for all CP/M machines? Again, not true. CP/M is a disc-based operating system and there being so many disc formats around, it's unlikely the software advertised is in your format.

There is, however, one exception. That is if you own 8in IBM compatible disc drives (not completely compatible even then) you should be able to get the software running on your machine after sorting our screen, memory locations, etc.

D. J. Every, Plympton, Plymouth

Send your letters to Letters,
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Charing Cross Road, London
WC2H OEE. Don't forget to name
your computer — you could
win £5-worth of software.
Queries cannot be answered on
this page.

it's safer by

The answer to Mr R G. Bennett's worry (Letters, HCW No. 3) about manufacturers holding money for a long period before sending goods and gaining interest at his expense might well be solved by the following, which would also safeguard his money should the manufacturer become insolvent.

Payment should be made by credit card and suppliers should only be allowed to debut the account when goods have been despatched.

In this way the supplier could determine just before the time of despatch that he will get his money and the consumer would not lose interest or run the risk of losing all or part of his money.

Credit card companies should only have dealings with suppliers who undertake to operate in the above manner and consumers should then only deal with suppliers who are prepared to accept credit cards.

The setting up of a bureau to hold the money would seem to be an unnecessary additional expense

F. L. Ellis, Botley, Oxford

Look a bit harder for un

As one of the few directors of British software houses specialising solely in the production of educational software, I must reply to two of the letters featured in issue No 2.

Mrs Genevieve Ludinski, of LCL, describes "99 per cent of educational software" as "small portions of exotic fare at inflated prices", while Ms Jane Everest says there "must be some programs around for use at home."

There are, Ms Everest. You simply have to look a bit harder to find them. Educational software houses like ourselves are reluctant

to commit heavy expenditure on massive advertising campaigns as indulged in by the game software houses.

We prefer at this stage to plough any profits back into developing that to which we are dedicated — the programs.

Mrs Ludinski makes a rash claim which I've seen before Whilst there is no doubt some truth in it, it is not helpful.

The few small firms who are selling educational software are certainly not making high profits, but at least are providing something which without them would not exist. Neither teachers not sixth-formers have the time or energy to become expert programmers.

Why should teachers burn the madright oil? The have more than enough to do anyway. Teaching is, as we know all too well, the most stressful profession there is.

Increasingly, I am happy to say, teachers are submitting software to companies like ours for publication. Increasingly we foresee moving away from producing our own software to becoming a publishing house.

Educational software is quite a different bail-game, its development takes time and patience. What the industry needs now are ideas and support and encouragement. We at Chalksoft are pleased to see that Home Computing Weekly is taking this side of the business senously. We hope that other magazines follow your good example.

Brian Kerslake, Chalksoft, Lowmoor Cottage, Tonedale, Wellington, Somerset TA21 OAL

Unexpanded and happy

In the third issue of Home Computing Weekly a review of the Quicksilva VIC-20 game Tornado appeared. We were astonished and concerned by the implication

that an expansion board was required to run Tornado. This is not the case, and Tornado will run quite happily on an unexpanded VIC-20.

The reviewer also had trouble with his joystick, which he seemed to think was due to the game. We are sorry the reviewer is having trouble with his hardware, but wish to point out to him that this has nothing to do with Tornado, which responds quickly and smoothly to a joystick

In our opinion, Tornado is certainly one of the most exciting games around for the unexpanded VIC.

Mark Eyles, Quicksilva, Southampton

Gather round, T!

Congratulations on a first class weekly magazine and thank you for your articles on the T199/4A, a much-neglected machine

May I ask through you if anyone is interested informing a T199 club? If so, can they contact me — to learn is to know

T. A. Grimshaw, 21 Allingham Street, Longsight, Manchester M13 0ZF

. . . but I still

I sympathise with C. Luke (HCW No. I). I too have had an Oric on order since November. It is not fair to potential purchasers for companies to advertise products which they cannot supply in a reasonable time.

Even now, though, I still have faith in the One 1 and have not, like so many others, cancelled my order.

However I ordered a 48K version, and if John Tulks is going to loan 48K models to those who ordered 16K and give them the option of buying the 48K at a reduced price, it seems hard on those of us who paid the full price.

Is One determined to aggravate the situation even more?

M.A. Mercer, Luton, Beds

You are alone among the stars, at the controls of your trusty starship. Suddenly you see a moving spot of light. As it closes in you realise it's one of the Empire's deadly fighters.

In my short program — which demonstrates what can done with graphies on the BBC micro — you are seated in the pilot's seat.

Enemy fighters approach one at a time but you have the better odds as your weaponry is superior.

You must manocuvre your ship until the hairline aiming sight is at the centre of the butterfly-shaped enemy craft. It will only explode with a direct hit on the centre.

If you manage to get that fighter, another will appear — closer this time, so you've less time to react. You have only a limited supply of energy, so don't waste your shots.

How it works

130-340	print instructions
430-460	add stars to screen
510-750	play game
760-850	firing routine
860-1000	explosion
	routine
1010-1160	enemy fire
	routine
1170-1320	end program
1330-1400	error routine
1410-1490	scroll routine
1500-1590	draw enemy
	fighter

Alone in Your starship — but not for long...

BBC PROGRAM

spinning out of nowhere in John Wilson's program for the 32K BBC micro.
Can you destroy them before they turn you into space debris?

Variables used: SCR screen number, SM energy left, S score, F firing flag, T speed of enemy, W size of enemy, I general loop, X co-ordinate of enemy, Y co-ordinate of enemy, M direction of movement of enemy, M direction of movement of enemy, XL old X position, YL old Y position, J general loop, G distance from enemy fire, AS whether another game is required, ERR error number, VPOS vertical position of cursor.

Hints on conversion

The mice thing about the BBC micro is its use of PROCedures to create well structured programs. The ones I have used are:

PROCL to scroll sentence across the screen

PROCDRAW draws the enemy fighter

PROCFIRE is your firing.

As you would expect, the VDU commands control the screen display.



```
430 FOR (#0TD RND(100)+50
 440 SCOL 0, RND (4)
 450 PLOT 69. RND (1280) - RND (1024)
 450 NEXT
 470 X=RND(1280)
 480 Y=RND(1024)
 490 H=RND(B)
 500 PRINT TAB(0.31)| "Score = ":SI" Energy = ":SH:" ":
 510 GCOL 0.3
 520 PROCDRAW(X.Y)
 530 IF IN FY (-82) AND SHIP THEN PROCEIRE
 540 IF RND(10)=1 OR K<0 OR X>1280 OR Y<0 OR Y>1024 THEN
H=RND(8)
 350 IF RND(10)=1 THEN T=T+1
 360 IF T=8 THEN T=6
 570 XI=X:YI=Y
 590 HOVE 640,500
 590 DRAW 840-524
 600 MOVE 628,512
 610 DRAW 652,512
620 IF N>150 THEN 1310
 630 IF INVEY(-34) OR INVEY(-17) III INVEY(-35) THEN Y=Y+
 640 IF INKEY(-67) OR INFEY(-98) III INKEY(-83) THEN Y=Y-
 650 IF INKEY(-66) OR INKEY(-17) | INKEY(-98) THEN X=X-
 460 IF INKEY(-51) OR INKEY(-83) OR INKEY(-35) THEN X=X+
670 IF HKS OR H=8 THEN Y=Y+T
680 IF HY3 AND HC7 THEN Y=Y-T
690 IF H>1 AND H<5 THEN X=X+T
700 IF H>5 THEM X=X-T
710 GCOL 0.0
```

BBC PROGRAM

```
720 PROCORAH(X1, Y1)
  730 IF F=1 THEN PROCFIRE
  740 W=W+1.05
  750 GOTO 510
 760 DEF PROCFIRE
  770 PRINT TAB(0,31)| "Score = ":S: " Energy = ":SH: " ":
 780 IF F=1 THEN F=0:N=N+1 ELSE F=1:SOUND 1:20:100.3:SH=
SH-10
 790 GCOL 0.F
  600 MOVE 0.0
 810 PLOT 21. 640,512
  820 MOVE 1280.0
 830 PLOT 21, 640,512
  640 IF F=1 AND ABS(X-640)<M/4 AND ABS(Y-512)<M/4 THEN 8
  650
 860 FOR J=0 TO 1
  870 FOR 1=0 TO 255 STEP 8
 880 IF J=0 THEN SOUND 0.17+1 DIV 25.1 DIV 80+4.1
  890 &COL 0:-{[ MOD 3:+(J=0)
 900 MOVE X-1.Y-1
  910 DRAW X+I.Y-I
 920 DRAN X+1,Y+[
  930 DRAW X-1.Y+1
 940 DRAW X-I,Y-1
  950 NEXT
 960 *FX15.1
  970 NEXT J
  980 CLS
  990 S=S+(150-1NT W)+3
 1000 80TO 370
 1010 X1=0: V1=0
 1020 6#8
 1030 MOVE X-X1.Y-Y1
 1040 GCOL 0.2
 1050 DRAW X-X1+2, Y-Y1+2
 1060 MOVE X+XL.Y-Y1
 1070 DRAW X+X1+2-Y-Y1+2
 1080 GCOL 0.0
 1090 MOVE X-X1-Y-YL
 1100 DRAW X-X1+2.Y-Y1+2
 1110 MOVE X+X1.Y-Y1
 1120 DRAW X+X1+2 Y-Y1+2
 1130 X1=X1+G1Y1=Y1+G
 1140 SOUND 1-17-0-1
```

```
1150 6=G+2
 1160 IF V YI O THEN 1030
 1170 FOR [=0 TO 15
 1180 SOUND 0 17+1-5 1
 1190 VOU 19 1 1+1 0 (
 1200 NEXT
 1210 MODE?
 1220 PRINT "** Your score was "15
 1230 PRINT "1
 1240 IF SOME THEN HESTPRINT "This is the highest score
20 fam. "160TO 1260
 1250 PRINT "But the high score is stall at "tH%
 1260 *F¥15 1
 1270 PRINT
               "Another same ""
 1280 A$=6ET$
 1290 IF ASA"Y" THEN RUN
 1300 IF ASETH THEN END
 1310 6076 1280
 1320 END
 1330 IF ERR#25 THEN GOTO ERL
 1340 IF ERR*17 THEN 350
 1350 MODE 7
1360 PRINT "
 1370 REPORT
1380 PRINT - in ( ne "IERL
 1390 •FI 15.1
 1400 END
 1410 DEF PROCE (AB)
 1420 LOCAL 1:Y
 1430 Y=VP0S
 1440 FOR X=1 TO 39
 1450 PRINT TAB(39-X,Y) (LEFT#(A#,X) (" ")
 1460 FOR [=0 TO 501NEXT
 1470 NEXT
 L480 PRINT
 1490 ENDPROC
 1500 DEF PROCDRAW()(, Y)
 1510 MOVE X-W-Y-W/2
 1520 DRAW X-N-Y+W/2
 1530 MOVE X+W: Y-M/2
 1540 DRAW X+W-Y+W/2
 1550 MOVE X-W: Y-W/2
 1560 DRAW 1+W: Y+W/2
 1570 MOVE X+W-Y-W/2
 1580 DRAW X-W. Y+W/2
 1590 ENDPROC
```

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HCW6

Personal Banking System Dragon E9.95

Hilton Computer Services, 14 Avalon Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 9AX.

This program is designed to help you keep track of your finances. You can use it to input, amend, delete and enquire about cash credits and debits, including cheques and standing orders.

These details are presented on screen, rather like a bank statement, and if you have a printer available you can print your own hard copies. All details are saved as data file on cassette, so you can build up a library of different financial accounts

My first impression was that this is a well-produced package. The documentation supplied was clearly printed and comprehensive. I had no difficulty loading the software from the cassette, which also had a sample data file to help the new user get to grips with the system quickly.

The program is driven by a framework of menus, from which you select the option you want. I found this system very easy to use. Each menu or display had clear instructions for input, and I rarely had to turn to the user manual

Incidentally, the manual also lists the line numbers and functions of the Basic routines used by the program, so there is scope for adding your own enhancements to the system.

The Personal Banking System is also available for the Spectrum

N.W.

instructions	80%
ease of use	85%
display	75%
value for money	80%



Cashcalc 48% Spectrum E6.95

Wizard Supersoft, 107 Broom Park, Teddington, Middx.

Planning the family finances for Catherine's Drive, Lecthe year ahead can be a headache Beverly, N. Humberside.

Getting down to brass tacks

As a break from playing games, why not make your micro do some work for you? There is software to plan your finances and keep track of your appointments: our reviewers take a critical look at it

— all those figures to add only to find that you will overspend. Then it's a case of trimming certain expenses, and adding it all up again.

"Now, there's a good application for my home computer" I hear you say, and Cashcale is designed for that specific purpose. It is designed to give 12 columns of figures, each representing one month's financial activity, and up to 18 rows of various items of income/expenditure.

This one-year plan can be displayed on your TV screen, and manipulated at modest speed. Six columns are displayed at a time, but on the screen the name you have assigned to each row always appears alongside the data.

The instructions provided with the cassette reminded me of the fine print at the bottom of a legal document — even if you can read it, it is difficult to follow.

For those who do have trouble with the written instructions there is a verbal commentary on the reverse side of the tape. A nice idea, this, but it didn't explain the operation of the program any more clearly.

Once mastered, the program is quite powerful, if slow, in opera-



tion. Items of income/expenditure can be displayed as cumulative or non-cumulative. Income items are entered as negative numbers, and expenditure items as positive numbers, which feets odd but saves a lot of keying

Copies of the tables can be dumped onto the ZX printer, and program and data saved on tape for future use (eg to compare actual with predicted expenditure, and modify the plan for the rest of the year).

D.N

instructions	30%
ease of use	40%
display	60%
value for money	30%



Figare II Numeric Database 48K Spectrum £14.95

Saxon Computing, 3 St Catherine's Drive, Leconfield, Beverly, N. Humberside. "Based on present trends, what will be our total sales in six months?". If, in your business life, you find yourself asking questions like this, then Saxon Computing have a program to make your crystal ball redundant.

Figaro II has some of the features of both spreadsheet and database information programs.

You can generate columns of data, as in a spreadsheet, but each

box can be labelled with a descriptive label. The item can then be easily identified should you re-use the data several months later.

All of the formulae are built into the program (good for those not mathematically-minded). These offer a set of powerful number crunching operations which determine averages, standard deviation, linear regression, timer senes, seasonal variation, indices, etc. etc. . .

The 14-page manual is very helpful in guiding you through the program, and explaining some of these terms

Results are well-laid out on the screen, and can be copied on the printer. Particularly impressive are the flexible graph and histogram generating routines.

The program is written entirely in BASIC. This doesn't cause any speed problems, but it does take up a lot of space. Of 48K of RAM, only 16K is left for user data (about 1000 data items).

For a "serious" micro, Figaro II would be cheap at the price. Even though prices for Spectrum programs tend to be more modest, Figaro II is reasonably priced by present standards.

	D.N.
	80%
	80%
,	70%
	50%
	,



Flexicale 48X Spectrum £9.95

Saxon Computing, 3 St. Catherine's Drive, Leconfield, Beverley, N. Humberside.

Following the success of Visicalc in the business world, several look-alike spreadsheet programs have appeared. Flexicalc is such a program for the ZX Spectrum.

Spreadsheet programs allow calculations to be made on large amounts of inter-related data, set out as a large electronic chart.

Their power lies in the ability to rapidly recalculate results following changes in some of the data. For example, in making finacial decisions, thus allow "what if...?" - type questions to be answered quickly.

Provided with Flexicale is an 11-page manual. Generally, this explains the principles and use of

SOFTWARE REVIEWS

the program quite well, but there are some omissions and errors. A worked example would be a great help for the first time user.

Flexicale has two main advantages over its rivals. It lets the user decide on the number of rows and columns in his spreadsheet, and it allows formulae (as well as data) to be altered at any time

Its main disadvantage is that it is written entirely in BASIC; computations can take minutes on large spreadsheets. Errors in the formulae or in the logic of the spreadsheet could cause the program to stop with a system error message. Make the mistake of restarting with RUN, and all the data is lost.

in common with other spreadsheet programs, data laboriously entered through the

keyboard can be saved on tape for future use. Hard copies of results can also be produced on the ZX printer, aithough the 32-column format only allows small segments to be copied at one time.

As a product intended for a business user, the obviously home-produced cassette insert and label were disappointing.

However, the program does provide all the calculating power that a user might expect from his Spectrum, and forms a reasonable introduction to microcomputer spreadsheet techniques. D.N.

instructions	80%
ease of use	60%
display	50%
value for money	40%





Print Shop

Cases Computer Simulations, 14 Langton Way, London SE3 7iL.

"You are the sole proprietor of a small print works, and your objective is to make a net profit of over £4000 in the first three months of trading". That's the challenge set by 'Print shop', a business simulation game from CCS.

You control your business by regularly deciding on numbers of staff, stock levels, production loading, and giving customers quotes on potential orders.

The computer gives you weekly Trading Accounts, and monthly profit/loss and cash flow sheets.

It also presents you with orders and acts as your competitor (quote too high a price and you

lose the order). Friendly messages at the end of each week tell you how you may improve your performance.

Full game instructions, with some hints, come with the program. These do not, however, include loading instructions. As the program recording level was low on the review tape, there were problems in loading the program.

Business simulation games are not only meant to be fun, but educational too. This tape was both; I found very soon that despite having profitable dealings, you can still get cash flow problems.

There are some annoying features of the program. Some messages flash on and off the screen before you have the chance to read them carefully.

There are many facts to bear in mind (such as stock levels) while playing the game. It would have been useful to be able to look up these facts and ask 'what if?' questions in making decisions, demonstrating the power of the micro in real business situations.

But worst of all, at the end of a successful game; when fully expected to be congratulated and have my healthy profit figure confirmed, the screen just went blank!

Nevertheless if you are a business student, or simply enjoy business games, 'Print Shop' is well worth a try.

D.N.

60%
70%
50%
80%



Eompufile Spectrum £4.95

Jaysoft, 22 Dane Acres, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM23 2PX

Computite offers the home computer user an unspectacular and basic filing program that's flexible enough for many applications and simple to use.

An excellent seven-page manual takes you through the program by working through an 'Address Book' example.

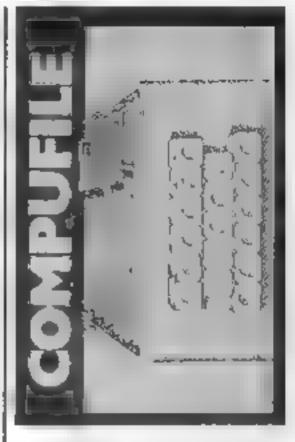
At the back, there are hints on how to set up files for other home applications such as cataloguing record collections and keeping an appointment diary.

The program is split into two parts, the first setting up the file. The user selects file name, and the number, heading and size of each field (records can have up to nine fields, each up to 15 characters long).

Following this, the main routine is merged into the first program.

The number of records depends on available RAM; this is calculated for you and shown on the screen before you start.

Only three options are available in the main menu: enter data, search/amend and save program plus data on tape.



To search, a field and search word are selected. The search word can be truncated (eg 'Sm' as a search word will pick up Smith, Smyth, etc).

Screen format of displayed records is simple but inflexible, fields are vertically aligned alongside the appropriate field heading.

In essence, a modest program at a modest price.

	D.N.
nstructions ase of use lisplay alue for money	90% 80% 60% 80%



Spect-A-Draw 42X Spectrum £17.50

BS McAlley, I Cowleaze, Chinnoe, Oxon OX9 4T J

This program aims to predict draws in league football, claiming to be up to 30% better than random selection. It does not guarantee wins, nor large dividends.

it works by comparing current relative performance of teams with a database of the past results of teams with a similar performance, which is a good strategy.

The package consists of two tapes, the program and its database. They can be bought separately, so you could buy the program itself (at £4.95) and use it to set up your own database but this would be very longwinded. In

fact the whole program requires some dedication, as its accuracy depends on keeping the database constantly updated.

A lot work has gone into this program, but it is a shame that little thought has been given to the display. Poor layout and poor presentation can suggest careless programming elsewhere. However I could find no evidence of this except for the failure to trap some errors and the need for seven pages of instruction.

Personally I don't think the tedium of using such a program is worth its possible results, but there may be others for whom the £17.50 would be a worthwhile investment.

	LATAA
instructions ease of use	70% 65%
display >	40%
value for money	55%

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My easy way to a set of fresh characters

Don't spend hours grappling with numbers to get new characters on your Atari. Let Marc Freebury's program do it for you

Each character on the Atari computers is built up of a god of eight by eight dots.

When a dot is lit it is represented internally by a 1 and when it is dark it is represented by a zero.

The Atari takes each row of the character gnd and stores it in one memory location, so one character will stretch over eight locations — see my diagram.

The standard Atari character set is held permanently in ROM, but the pointer which defines where the computer looks for character definitions may be changed.

Thus, by a techous process of drawing, adding up and writing vast numbers of data statements, you can define things like a Pi sign or a Pacman.

10 DAYR 218,104,104,141,185,6,104,141,18 4,6,165,136,133,203,165,137,133,204,32,1 36,0,165,203,133,205,165,204,133 26 COTTO 229.284.141,183,6,78,163 ,285,141,186.6.165,284.229,286,1 22 DRTR 145,285,288,288,248,238,284,238, 286,282,288,242,284,182,6,248,7,177,283, 145,285,288,288,244,162,0,168,4 25 DRTR 96.181.138.237.196.6.149.138.181 .138.237.187.6.149.138.232.232.136.289.2 36.96.168.2.177.283.141.188.6.136 9 00T0 177,203,136,201,128,240,30,205,1 85,6,240,4,176,23,144,7,177,203,205,104, 6,176,14,24,173,180,6,101,203 35 DATA 133,283,144,215,238,284,288,211. 96.8.8.9.0.8.8.9.0 40 RESTORE 19:FOR I=1536 TO 1724 RERD A: POKE 1,8:HEXT I 98 OPEN 41.4,8,"K1" 100 GROPHICS OF SETCOLOR 2,0,0 POSITION 1 119 POSITION 14,217 "PLEASE HAIT" 128 A-KPEEK(186 >-8)#256 130 FOR I=8 TO 18231POKE 1+R.PEEK(57344+ 1)19ETCOLOR 4.PHIX 13K16.51HEXT 1 148 BROPHICS BISETCOLOR 2-8-81POKE 752-1 150 7 ° 168 FOR I=1 TO 7 170 7 ")) : |) : | [" 100 ? " 190 NEXT I 200 7 " | | | (| | | | | " 218 7 " 228 GOSUB G888:? !? "HELP-REDEFINE-INVER 238 7 "BACK, LOOK, EHD" 248 BET #1.K 258 [F K=72 THEN 1888 268 1F K=82 THEN 2008 278 IF K=73 THEN 3988 200 IF K-66 THEN 4000 298 IF K+76 THEN 5000



TILLEBAL OPTION": 80SU 1986 SARPHICS BISETCOLOR 2-8-91PORE 752. 1810 POSTTION 18,927 "HELP": POSTTION 18, 1828 7 "TYPE THE FIRST LETTER OF THE CON 1938 7 "YOU HISH TO USE " 1848 7 17 "HELP + BRINGS UP THIS HERU." 1959 ? 17 "REDEFINE - CHANGE A CHANGETER , OFTER" 1868 ? "CHOOSING THIS OPTION. YOU PUST TY PE A" 1070 7 "A KEY TO BE REDEFINED (LOHER CRS E 15" 1898 7 "ALLOHED). THES HELL BE DESPLAYED AS 11" 1898 ? "APPEARS NOW, YOU TRY THEN BESTN F 1188 ? "BY ENTERING A C TO CLEAR THIS, OR ALTER" 1110 ? "HART IS THERE BY TYPING A.MOVE" 1120 ? "THE CURSOR (") TO R SQUARE YOU 1130 7 "HANT TO CHANGE USING THE JUYSTIC 1148 ? "PRESSING THE BUTTON HILL FLYER T 1150 7 "SQUARE. IF THAT SQUARE HAS PREVIO USLY" LIGO ! "FILLED IN, IT WILL BLANK IT, OR VI CE" 1170 ? "VERSO, " 1180 2 :7 "PRESS RNY KEY TO CONTINUE" 1198 GET #5.K 1,200 GRAPHICS 0: SETCOLOR 2,40,0: POKE 752, 1210 POSITION 19.0:? "HELP": POSITION 18. 1226 ? "INJERT - TAKE A CHARACTER THE EX ACT* 1230 ? "OPPOSITE OF HHAT ET LOCKS LIKE N 1248 7 "1.0. 'E' HOULD BECOME 'E'"

The easy answer is to write a program to handle the maths, and allow on-screen editing of an enlarged view of each character as it is re-defined.

My program goes one better. Once you have finished it will remove itself from memory and write a BASIC program — data statements included — to install your new character set, at any line number you specify (up to 32000).

The program explains itself and incorporates a HELP facility.

Note: the program must be typed in with the line numbers exactly as they are or problems will occur. Also, when using the program, do not attempt to re-define the graphics characters gained by using the CRTL key.

1258 ? IT "BRCK - CHANGE A CHARACTER BRC 1260 ? "THE FORT THE COMPUTER USES, THIS 1278 7 "IN CASE YOU REDEFINE A CHARACTER L288 T "RETURLLY HANTED," 1298 ? 1? "LOOK - LOOK AT THE CHARACTER YU. 1300 7 "CHOOSEJAS LT APPEARS ON THE SCRE 1310 ? "NOT THE ENLARGED VERSION YOU HOR K ON. " 1326 ? 1? "END - STOPS THE PROGRAM AND 6 1338 7 "THE OPTION OF CREATING A PIECE O 1348 ? "BRSIC CODE TO USE IN YOUR OHN" 1358 ? *PROGRAMS. THAT HILL INSTALL THE N L380 7 "CHARACTER SET FOR YOU." 1378 POSITION 9,22:7 "PRESS RNY KEY TO C DAT I HUE" 1388 GET 01.K 1398 GOTD 148 2000 GOSUB 600017 " PRESS THE KEY TO":7 2010 GET 01.K 2020 IF K(91 AND K)31 THEN KHK-32 2925 ADDR=A+K#8.605UB 6298 2030 GOSUB 600012 " ALTER OR CLEAR" 2040 BET 01.K 2050 IF KC)65 AND KC)67 THEN BOSUB 60001 ? "ILLEGAL OPTION": BOSUB 6188: 80TO 2838 2060 IF K-67 THEN FOR 1=3 TO 17 STEP 2:F DITIKEMENT I 2070 GOSUB 6000:7 " USE JOYSTICK AND BU TYON":? "TO ALTER CHARACTER":? "AT END H IT ESC* 2005 X=3:Y=1:LOCRTE X,Y,CHOR:POSITION X. 2090 S-STICK(0): IF S-15 THEN 2150 2095 COLOR CHAR: PLOT X,Y 2100 X=X+(S=7)X2-(S=11)X2 2110 Y=Y+(S=13)#2-(S=14)#2

ATARI PROGRAM

2120 X=X+LX(3)#2-(H)17)#2 2138 Y=Y+(Y(1)#2-(Y)16 X#2 2148 LOCATE X.Y.CHAR POSITION X.Y.? """ 2150 IF STRIGGEN >9 THEN 2188 2155 FOR I=1 TO 20 NEXT 1 2:60 IF CHAR=168 THEN CHAR=32:60T0 2188 2178 CHAR=160 2188 IF PEEK(764)X>28 THEN 2898 2185 POSITION X,YX? CHR#(CHAR) 2190 FOR I=1 TO 16 STEP 2: COUNT=128: BYTE =0:FOR J=3 TO 17 STEP 2: LOCATE J.1. CHAR 2288 IF CHAR-168 THEN SYTE-BYTE+COUNT 2285 COUNT#COUNT/2 2210 NEXT J 2228 POKE ADOR+1NT(1/2),BYTE 2230 NEXT 1 2248 POKE 764,255 2250 BCTO 140 3888 BOSUB SOOR: ? PRESS THE KEY": ? "TO BE INVERTED" 3010 GET \$1.K 3020 IF K<91 AND K>31 THEN K=K-32 3838 ACIDR+K#8+A+605UB 6200 3840 FOR I=1 TO 15 STEP 2:FOR J=3 TO 17 STEP 2:LOCATE J.I.CHAR 3850 CHOR=(CHOR=160)#32+(CHOR=32)#168 3860 COLOR CHAR: PLOT J.I. 3878 NEXT J:NEXT I 3000 GOSUB GOOD!? ACCEPT OR REJECT"12 3890 GET #1.K 3100 [F K<>65 AND K<>62 THEN 909UB 6000: 7 " ILLEGAL OPTION":906UB 6100:6010 300 3118 IF K-65 THEN 2198 3:28 80TO 148 4000 60SUB 60081? " PRESS KEY TO BE*17 "TURNED BACK" 4018 GET #1.K 4828 IF K<81 AND K>31 THEN K-K-32 4836 ADDR=K#8+A+80SUB 6298 4848 90SUB 688817 "CONFIRM Y OR N" 4858 BET 01.J 4060 IF JK >88 AND JK >78 THEN 805UB 6888: 1 ILLEBAL OPTION": 805UB 6188: 8010 484 4076 [F J=78 THEN 148 4000 HOR9+57344+K#8 4898 FOR 1=8 TO 71POKE ROOR+I, PEEK(NORFI+ I >ENEXT I 4892 FOR 1=3 TO 17 STEP 21FOR J=1 TO 15 STEP 21POSITION [,J17 " "LHEXT JINEXT] 4095 60SUB 6290 4)00 GOSUB 600017 " PRESS FMY KEY TO"17 4118 GET 01.K 4128 60TO 148 3000 GRAPHICS 0:SETCOLOR 2.0.0:POSITION 19.0: "LOOK":POSITION 19.1:7 "----":7 ! POKE 752, L 5010 7 "PRESS THE KEY TO BE LOOKED AT" 5020 GET #1.K 5038 T "INNEN READY TO VIEW PRESS PMY KEY 5858 ? "THE CHARACTER IS UTEMABLE IN MOD ES. 5852 ? "MODES 8,1 AND 2.TYPE THE NUMBER 5054 ? "THE MODE YOU HISH TO VIEW INJOR

the distance of the fitting of the party of the party of

5056 ? "ESC TO END." 5000 GET 01,J 5000 GRAPHICS MODE: SETCOLOR 2.0.0: SETCOLOR 4.0.0: COLOR K: POKE 756.R/256: POKE 752 5879 MODE=8 5890 IF MODE=0 THEN PLOT 20.10 5100 IF PODE=1 THEN PLOT 18,12 5110 IF MODE=2 THEN PLOT 10.6 5128 BET #1,J 5130 IF J=27 THEN 140 5140 IF J>47 AND JK51 THEN MODE=J-48 5158 GOTO 5888 6000 FOR 1=20 TO 22:POSITION 0.1 6810 7 * 6820 NEXT (6030 POSITION 0,20 6849 RETURN 6100 FOR 1=1 TO 500: HEXT 1 6195 GRAPHICS 019FTCOLOR 2,8,8 6288 FOR 1=8 TO 71L0C=PEEK(ROOR+1)1COUNT 6218 L0C2+L0C+L0C+(NT(L0C2/2)#2 6220 IF LOCACHLOC THEM POSITION COUNTERS 6238 LOC=[NT(LOC2/2)+COUNT=COUNT=1 6248 IF LOCK > THEN 6218 6250 NEXT I 6288 RETURN 10000 GRAPHICS 01SETCOLOR 2,0.01POICE 752 .1:POSITION 18.817 "END 10010 POSITION 2,5:2 *OPTIONS +** 18828 POSITION 5,712 "E EXIT TO BASIC." 10030 POSITION 5,10:7 °C EXIT TO BASIC R TYN MEN CHARACTER : POSITION 7,11:7 "SET INSTALLED." 18846 POSITION 5,1317 "B CREATE BRSIC PR 18850 POSITION 7,1417 "NEW CHARACTER SET 10060 BET 01.K 10070 IF KHGS THEN GRAPHICS DISETCOLOR 2 0.01END 1888 IF K=67 THEN SRAPHICS 8:POKE 756.A 256:SETCOLOR 2:8:8:7 "CHARACTER SET INS TALLED *17 IEND 10030 GRAPHICS 0:SETCOLOR 2:0:0 10100 7 "ENTER START LINE HUMBER "ALINPU T START 10105 IF START (32000 AND START) OND START (1010) 10118 7 "THAT IS NOT A NUMBER IN THE PER TITTED": ? "RANGE.": ? 160TO 18895 18128 DIR RC 128 >: COUNT#1:7 ")": POSITION 13,81? "00 NOT DISTURB":POKE 752,11? 10138 FOR 1=8 TO 1823 STEP 8:ADDR=[+A:FL 18149 IF PEEK 57344+1+J) () PEEK RODR+J) T HEN FLAG-1 10150 HEXT J 18168 IF FLAS-1 THEN ACCOUNT >= REDUR + COUNT =COUNT+1 19178 NEXT I LOLDO GRAPHICS DISETCOLOR 2.0.0:COUNT-CO UNT-1:15 COUNT-0 THEN ? "HO CHARACTERS R EDEF [NED "17 t7 :7 :EHD

32781 LL=1:COUNT2=1:LINES=1:POSITION 2,4 32792 ? START; DATA ";:START=START+18 32784 IF COUNTS !! THEN ? COUNTS "."; 32786 NUM=R(COUNT2):? NUM-R;","; 32788 FOR 1=8 TO 7:2 PEEK(NUM+1);: IF 1c) THEN ? 32718 NEXT 1 32712 COUNT2=COUNT2+1: IF COUNT2>COUNT TH EN 32718 32714 LL=LL+8: (F LL<16 THEN ? ",";:60TO 32706 32716 LINES+LINES+1:LL=1:7 :IF LINES(5 THEN 32782 32718 7 1? "CONT": POSITION 2,8: POKE 842, 13: STOP 32729 POKE 842,12:GRAPHICS 0:SETCHLOR 2, 0:00:POSITION 2,4 32722 IF COUNT2<=COUNT THEN LINES=1160TO 32782 32724 STRRT=1NT(START/100)#188+188:6R9PH ICS 0: SETCOLOR 2,0,0: POSITION 2,4 TART+10; FOR 1-0 TO 18231POKE R+1, PEEK 32728 ? STRRT+20; * RESTORE *;START2; *:RE 32738 7 START+38: FOR [=] TO NUMBER REA D GOOR FOR J=8 TO ?" 32732 ? START+40;" READ Z1POKE A+ADDR+J; ZINEXT JIHEXT L" 32734 ? START+50; POKE 756,A/256" 32736 7 17 "CONT": POSITION 2.8: POKE 842, 32738 POKE 042.12 32748 GRAPHICS BISETCOLOR 2.8,817 "CHARA CTER SET PROGRAM CREATED, TYPE" 32742 T "RETURN TO LIST PROBRAM, "17 17 " *1P0S1T10N 2.1 32767 X=USR(1536,32700,32767)

والجوالم بالقرورون المستسور والجيوان المستقاسف الوميات فا

BINARY VALUES

128	64	32	16		-4	2	1	
								0
			1	1				24
		1	1	1	1			60
	1	1			1	1		102
	1	1			1	1		102
	1	1	1	1	1	1		126
	1	1			1	1		102
								Q.



10105 0070 32700

32799 X-USR(1536,10,10185)

ZX81 PROGRAM

Bowled over by your micro

Micro Bowls game by Timothy Lowe

If you've ever fancied yourself as a bowls player, my Micro Bowls program for the ZX81 plus 16K could be the next best thing.

When you run the program, at will set up the bowling green as shown in Figure 1. You must try to hit a number with your bowl—but mind you don't hit a space or

the gutter.

You have 10 bowls, and as each descends the screen, press B to roll it forward.

if you hat a 10 you get 10 points, if you hat a space you score nothing, and if you hat the guiter, you're in for a nasty surprise.

0

10

<u> ಇಲಾಗ್ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ತಿಳಿಗ್ ಕರ್ಕಿ ಅಲ್ಲಗಾಕ</u>

Figure 1

1 REM TIMOTHY LOWE "ZX81 MICR BOWLS" 10 LET 5=0 FAST PRINT AT 0,1; "BLTTES GUTTES TES GUTTES"; AT 21,1, "SUTTES B GUTTES", FOR I=1 TO 20 STEP 2 FOR U=1 TO 10 FOR G=0 TO 21 PRINT AT G.0. 110 PRINT AT G.0; THEN GOSUB 50 130 NEXT NEXT U 140 150 PRINT RT 1,0,"YOUR SCORE=", 160 STOP PRINT AT 6.0; "0" (G/2) (>G/2 THEN PRIN T G.30; 10 0 IF G=0 OR G=21 THEN PRINT A 0; "DISQUALIFIED" 560 IF G=0 OR G=21 THEN STOP 570 IF INT (G/2)(>G/2 THEN LET 5=5+10 **GOTO 140**

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How to make Your Programs child-proof

Your computer can be a better teaching aid for children... if you follow these tips from primary school teacher Dave Carlos

Those of us who have to justify the purchase of a micro-computer with a "better" reason than that we like playing games, often use the children and their education as an argument.

What we mean by this is not usually very clear but we have vague notions of maths, English, geography and, of course, logic and computer hieracy itself.

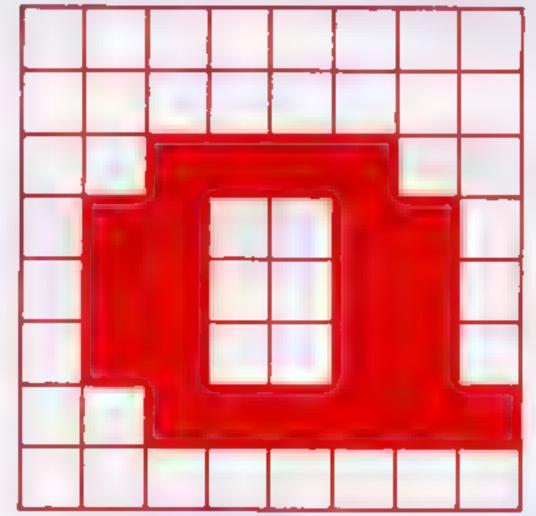
Eventually we may consider the purchase of educational software or may even write some.

Young children are taught to read using lower case lettering with capitals used only where necessary. The use of such things on the screen can give a good indicator of the thought which has gone into planning educational programs.

It is surprising how often all screen output is in block capitals even when the computer has lower case lettering available.

This makes the output much more difficult to read and can put some children off straightaway due to the difficulty of recognising even those words they know on sight. For these reasons it is vital that all output is in lower case. For very young children it may be possible and desirable to redefine certain characters to make them more recognisable and more like those they are taught to recognise in early reading books.

A prime example is the use of the letter 'a' which young children may not recognise while the letter 'a.' should present no problem.



BBC: VDU23,97,00,60,102,102,63,0

Figure 1 - user defined character for letter 'a'

INTERNATION AND ARREST

10000	INPUT NAMES
10010	L = 1: NAME2S = ""
10020	A = ASC(MIDS(NAMES, L, I))
10030	IF $A > 97$ NAME2S = NAME2S + CHRS ($A - 32$)
	ELSE NAME2S = NAME2S + CHR5 (A)
10040	L = L + I
10050	IF L > LEN (NAMES) GOTO (Next part of pro-
	gram)
LOOMO	A = ASC (MIDS(NAMES, L, I))
10070	IF $A = 32 \text{ NAME2S} = \text{NAME2S} + "": L = L + 1:$
	GOTO 10020
10080	IF $A < 97$ NAME2S = NAME2S + CHRS $(A + 32)$
	ELSE NAME2S = NAME2S + CHR\$ (A)
10090	GOTO 10040

Listing 1 — change NAMES into initialised lower case. Result = NAME25

The dot pattern for such a character is given in figure 1. User defined characters make things much easier for your child.

Many programs make laudable attempts to be 'user friendly' by asking for names to be input which are then used at regular intervals later. Unfortunately, however, if you have taken the advice of the last paragraph, input of names in capitals will look odd among the normal text. So it's essential that such input is changed to the more normal initialised name for future use

There are two main methods. Firstly you could accept the input and check it for capitals, at the beginning or after a space, followed by lower case. If the pattern desired is not followed you could output a correction message and ask for more input, hopefully then of the right kind (but it should be rechecked).

The second method, probably better for young children, is to accept the input and change it to the pattern desired within the program.

This may be translated into a program such as Listing 1 (written in BBC Basic).

Remember then to use the output (NAME2S) or assign the new string to the old variable name (NAMES = NAME 2S) for printing later in the program.

Data validation is also very important for children and this raises the problem of input prompts.

PROGRAMMING

All programs should be introduced by an adult, so some of the basic information on responding to the program should be understood. But this doesn't do away with the need for the programmer to validate all input data before continuing the program.

Prompts should be obvious (flashing if possible), only on the screen one at a time (so as not to confuse) and should specify the range of input required.

A good prompt might be 'Type a whole number between 60 and 100 now' while the usual (bad) variety is 'Input a number'.

The number input should then be checked and only accepted if it is between 60 and 100 inclusive. and an integer value. Anything else should be rejected with an appropriate message and the program should re-prompt for input

Letter input is more difficult to check, especially if one is prepared to accept both upper and lower case input. A simple yes/no answer might be validated by this program line.

INPUT AS: IF AS< > "Y" AND AS< > "N" AND 500 A\$< > "y" AND A\$< > "n" THEN GOTO 500 1FAS = "Y" OR AS = "y" GOTO (ves branch)10 20 GOTO (no branch)

problems become huge and are validation would be

If one is expecting a choice | better dealt with using character from more than two letters the codes eg. for input A - G the

INPUT AS: IF ASC (AS) < 65 OR ASC (AS) > 103 OR 500 (ASC(AS) > 71 AND ASC (AS) < 97) GOTO 500

to present multiple choice ques- | = Yes, 2 = No, 3 = Don't know

Another technique might be 1 tions with a response number eg. 1

etc. This makes the response easier to check and may be easier for the child than finding keys on a **QWERTY layout.**

My solution is to stick an infant lower case alphabet on top of the keys. My four-and-a-halfyear-old son Jonathan finds this a great help. It makes very little difference to my speed and shouldn't affect a touch typist at all.

It is good practise always to document your programs, even if they are not intended to leave the bouse. This should include.

1 Name of program, title it is saved under and date of completion 2 A list of all the variables used and their purpose within the program. As an example see Listing 2 3 A list of all subroutines of procedures and their purposes.

How it works

Long variable names are not allowed by some BASICS so change these as required, but remember which one is to be used in future or the procedure is worthless!

ASC (NamesS) finds the ASCII code for the particular letter. This is the equivalent of CODE (NAME\$) on Sinclair machines.

MIDS(String, Letter, no. of Letters) is a slicing operator and can be changed to, say, NAME\$ (L) on Sinclair computers.

Line numbering is high to make the point of this being used as a subroutine or procedure. Change this as required.

variable	type	purpose
NAMES L		Initial input from player Letter counter
NAME2S A		Final (output) name after changes ASCII value of letter being tested

Listing 2 — variable list

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COMMODORE 64 PROGRAMMING

For those who want high resolution without the cost of a £50 cartridge this could be the answer.

The program plots high resolution graphics in two modes it may be of use to people with ViCs or other computers with extensive user defined graphics.

Two modes, both of which can display 16 colours at one. time, can be used by letting MU=O or 1. If MU=O, resolution is 320 by 200, with two colours per square. Squares may be different colours and are in the same pattern as character squares

If MU = 1, resolution is 160 by 200, and four different colours can be displayed in each square.

Lines up to 999 contain graphics routines. The first is SYS 40704. This clears the

Improve your screen and save £50

There's no need to buy a cartridge for high resolution graphics on the Commodore 64. Try David Rees' solution

may be called anywhere in a program

All other routines are in BASIC and variables needed are given just before each routine. POINT is accessed us-

the X,Y co-ordinates. LINE uses GOSUB 600 and needs start and finish co-ordinates.

CIRCLE is the most complex routine, and is accessed using GOSUB 800. It screen via machine code and ling GOSUB 400, and only needs luses an x,y radius so you can

create ellipses. It also needs the co-ordinates of the circle's centre and the start and finish angle. For a full circle, start is 0 and finish is 2 PI, but ares can also be made.

The final routine is Normal Screen, accessed using GOSUB 900. It simply puts the screen back into text mode during a program.

Two variables are used for colour. CP is the colour displayed, eg red, and CO is the number of the colour assigned within that square. For mode 0 this is 0 to 1, and for mode 1, 0 to 3.

The final part of the program is from line 1000 onwards, and is used for your programs. A demonstration program shows how to use the routines. Note line 1200, which lets you look at the display for as long as you want. All you do is press a key to return to normal mode

```
1 RENW
          GRAPHICS PLOTTING
 Z REM#
            BY DHVID REES
 3 REM
 5 REMA
             INITIALISE
6 REN#MU=1 GIVES MULTILOLGUR#
 7 REM
10 V=53248 CO=PEEK(V+33) MU=1 CP=1
20 FUR N=0 TO 71
30 KERDA
40 POKE 40704+N. A
50 NEXT N
60 PUKE 55,253 PUKE56,31: POKE51,255
70 POKE52,31:POKE781,CO-8Y$40704
75 REMR
            MACHINE CODE
76 REMW TO CLEAR THE SCREEN #
7/ REM
80 DATA 169,0,133,251,169,32
90 DHTA 133,252,160,0,169,0
100 DHTR 145,251,230,251
110 DHTR 197,251,240,2,208,246
120 DATA 230,252,169,64
130 DATA 197,252,208,236
140 DHTR 169,0,133,251,169,4
150 DATH 133,252,160,0,138
160 DATA 145,251,230,251
170 DATA 169,232,197,251
160 mATH 208,7,169,7,197,252
190 DATA 208,1,96,152
200 DATH 197,251,240,4,138
210 DHTR 24,144,239,230,252
220 DAIR 24, 144, 224
230 POKE V+22, PEEK(V+22)OR(MU#16)
240 POKE V+17, PEEK(V+17) GR 32
250 POKE V+24, PEEK (V+24) OR8
260 A(0)=1 A(1)=16 A(2)=1 A(3)=1
270 B(0)=v+33 B(1)=1024
260 B(2)=1024:B(3)=55296
290 C(0)=240 C(1)=15 C(2)=240:C(3)=240
```

```
300 GOTU1000
  398 KEM# POINT CALCULATION AND PLOT #
  SY9 KEM#
                 POST (TON=(X,Y)
  408 XC=INT(X)/8
  410 IF XC>39.9 THEN RETURN
  420 IF MU=0 THEN 440
  430 xB=2+(2#InT(3-4#(x3-InT(XC))+0.5))
  435 XB=XB#CP 0GT0430
  449 xB=2finT(7~8*(xC-InT(xC))+0.5)
  445 XB=XB#(CFANul)
  450 YC=INT(Y)/8
  460 IF YC>24.9 THEN RETURN
  470 YB=8#(YC-1NT(YC))
  480 CH=INT(XC)+INT(YC)#46
  490 BY=CH#8+YB+8192
  50% PUKE BY PEEK (BY)ORX'S
 510 IF MU=1 THEN 560
 520 IF CP=1 THEN PC=PEEK(CH+1024)AND15
 530 IF CP=1 THEN POKE CH+1024, PO+CO#16
 535 IF CP=1 THEN RETURN
 540 POKECH+1024, (PEEK(CH+1024) RND240)+CO
 556 RETURN
 IF CH=0 THEN CH=0
 570 PU=PEEK(B(CP)+CH)ANDC(UP)
 580 POKE B(CP)+CH,PG+CO#A(CP)
 590 RETURN
 596 REM# LINE ROUTINE
 597 REM# START=(#1,41)
 390 KEM# FIN.SH#(AZJYZ)
 599 REM
 600 XD=X2-X1
 610 YD=Y2-Y1
 620 XS=SBN(XD) 1FXS=OTHENXS=1
 63U YS=SUN(YD) · IFYS=UTHENYS=1
 640 XD=HBS(XD)
 650 YD=RBS(YD)
 עץ~נא≃ע 0כפ
676 IF DK0 THEN 748
```

COMMODORE 64 PROGRAMMING

```
680 TEYL THEYD/XD#78
690 FOR X=X1 TO X2+1 STEP AS
/00 00au5 40d
716 Y=Y+YA
724 NEXT X
750 RETURN
246 X年X1 ハイギスジイナJ単大さ
756 FOR 7=12 TO 12+1 SIEP YS
762 GUSUB 400
7/0 X=X+XA
780 NEXTY
750 HE LRN
738 KER# CIRCLE ROUTINE
YOU REMA RADIOSARX AY
797 KEM# CENTRE#SKJCY
798 REMW START ANGLE=H1 W
789 KEN# FIRISH ANGLESHZ ₩
800 R=(Rx12+RY12)10.5
610 S=#/(K10.7+U.0.)
820 KX=HBS(RXANDSII)
630 Ry=RB5(RYRND255)
840 FOR A=A1 TO A2 STEP S
SDB A1=UX+RX#UDS(A) X2=CX+RX#CES(A+S)
660 TIPOTHRY#SIN(A) TZ=CT+RY#SIN(A+S)
578 GC5UB 600
880 NEXT A
```

```
899 REMA NURMAL SCREEN &
900 +≠53∠48
910 POKEV+24, PEEK (V+24) AND 247
920 POKEV+17, PEEK(V+17) HND223
930 POKEV+22, PEEK(Y+22)AND239
940 PRINTED
950 RETURN
997 REMM DEMONSTRITON PROGRAM *
958 KEM#
           ี 00=ปีหลิด 00⊾ปีปล
539 KEMW CF#COLOUR PUT IN
1000 CU=0 CP=1
1010 x1=150 Y1=60 x2=150 Y2=140
1828 COSUB680
1030 h1=103:Y1=100:x2=200:Y2=100
1040 L0=1:CP=2:00503600
1060 Cx=150:CY=100.RX=35.RY=30
1070 R1=0 h2=z##
1080 CC=5.LP=3 GUSU#800
1050 CO=1:CP=2
1100 FOR N=0 TO 39
1.10 XX=RND(1)#320 YX=KND(1)#200
1120 X=X2-Y=Y2
1130 GOSUB 400
1148 NEXT N
1200 GETAS - IFAS= "THEN: 200
1210 GUSUB900
```

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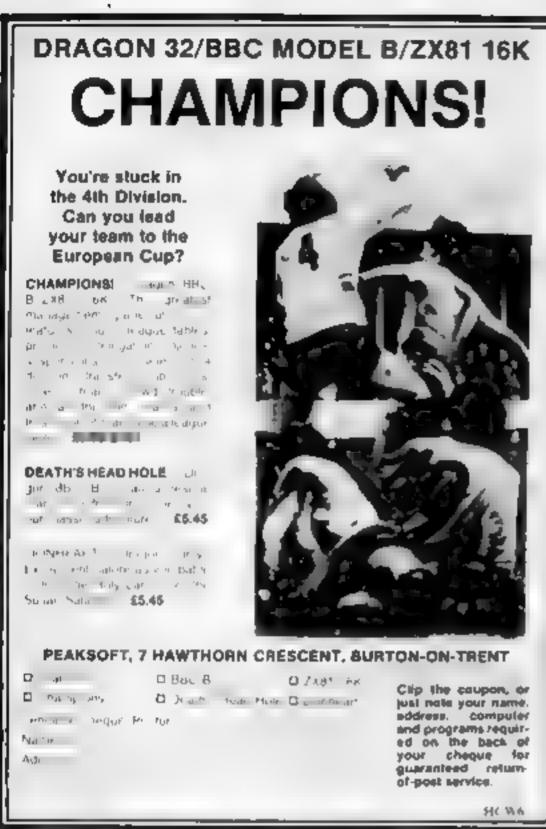
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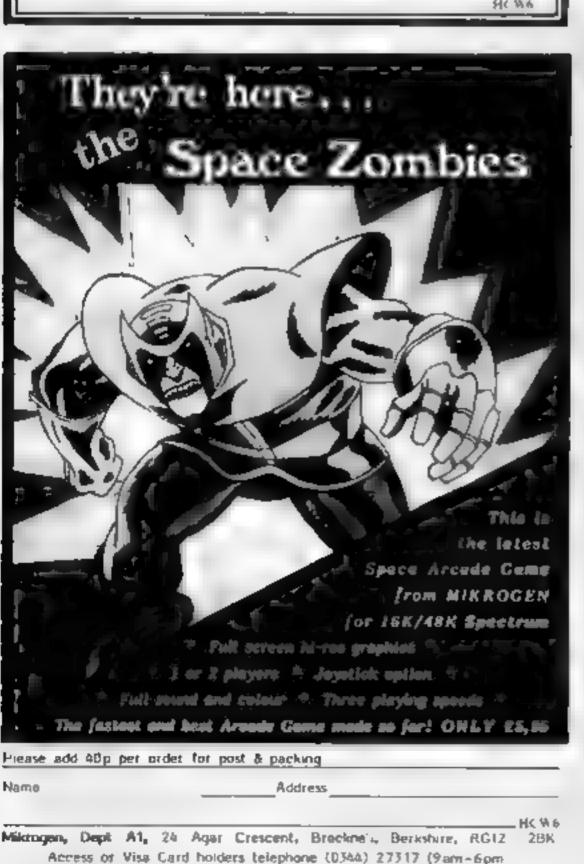
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VIC-20 PROGRAMS

Learning letters can be fun with the VIC-20

Letter recognition/spelling

Teaching children basic skills like the alphabet and spelling can be an uphill task - especially if your child would rather run off and play. My two programs for the unexpanded VIC-20 are designed to make learning fun

The first will encourage three- to five-year-olds to recognise letters of the alphabet - but they will need some help from an adult. Line 100 chooses a letter of the alphabet at random and displays it on the screen for four seconds (line 210).

A micro could become your child's favourite teacher. Vic Rogers presents two programs to teach letter recognition and spelling. And John Cullen has written an anagram game especially for younger children



The child then tries to press the matching key. If they get it right, the computer plays a scale (imes 500-620).

If they press the wrong key the computer makes an explosion sound and shows them the right answer (lines 300-440).

My second program is for older children, and will help with school spelling fists. It is written to cope with 10 words, but can be altered to suit shorter or longer lists by altering lines 210, 215 and 4050.

Parents should make sure the right spellings are input (line 220) to start off with.

Each word is displayed individually and then spelt out letter by letter (lines 520 and 570).

The screen clears and the child is then asked to type the word. If it is spelt wrongly, the correct spelling is given (line 3810) before going on to the next.

A score of correct answers is kept, and the program lets your child run through the list of words again.

Anagrams

My anagram game, Build a House, is written for the VIC-20 plus 3K expansion. It helps young children improve their spelling by getting them to unscramble

- 1 OPEN1,4
- 2 CMD1 LIST
- 5 REM##LETTER RECOGNITION**
- 10 POKE36879,25
- 20 PRINT"D'
- 25 FORT=1T03000 NEXT
- 30 PRINT" MUNICIPALITY OF CHILD'
- 40 FORT=1T05000 NEXT
- 42 PRINT"D" FORT=1T02000 NEXT
- 50 POKE36879,174
- 60 FORT=1T02000 NEXT
- 100 X=INT(RND(1)*90)+1
- 150 IFX<6500T0100
- 180 PRINT"" PRINT PRINT PRINT PRINT PRINT
- 200 PRINTTAB(10)CHR#(X)
- 210 FORT=1T04000 NEXT
- 215 PRINT"D" PRINT PRINT:PRINT:PRINT PRINT
- 240 INPUT"XIMPPPPPPPPP"; As
- 250 IFA\$=CHR\$(X)00T0500
- 280 IFA\$<>CHR\$(X)GQTQ300
- 300 POKE36879,59 PRINT"D"
- 310 POKE36877,220
- 320 FORL=15TOUSTEP-1
- 330 POKE36878,L
- Listing 1 letter recognition

- | 340 FORM=1T0300
 - 350 NEXTM NEXTL
- 360 POKE36877,0
- 370 PDKE36878.0
- 400 PRINTTAB(6) "INCOMPAN OF OH DEAR E'
- 410 PRINT" WOODDDDDDDDDDDIT WAS"
- 420 PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:
- 430 PRINTTAB(10)CHR*(X)
- 440 FORT=1T04000 NEXT:PRINT"3" 'GOT050
- 500 POKE36879,154
- 510 PRINTTAB(6)"WWWELL DONE"
- 520 POKE36878,15
- 530 FORL=1T0200STEP-2
- 540 POKE36876,L
- 550 FORM-1T0100
- 560 NEXTMINEXTL
- 570 FORL=205T0250STEP2
- BBU POKE36876,L
- 590 FORM=1T0100
- NEXTM NEXTL
- 610 POKE36076,0
- 620 POKE36878,0
- 625 PRINT""
- G0T050
- 705 CLOSE1,4

VIC-20 PROGRAMS

јштоња у		though, the house disappears b
	ey succeed, they see a	one layer and the computer tell
house be	ing built up layer by	them the right word.
layer.		Lme by line, this is how th
If th	ey get a word wrong,	program works.
[
0	CHR\$(8) disables the :	switching case keys
10		priate variables: B% = data for
10	r v r	characters to be poked for the
		-
	7 = Yellow.	of house: $0 = Black$, $2 = Red$,
20		had tora annual madesan
20		ked into sound registers = location on the screen from
		It down. The screen starts at
	· ·	is 22 characters wide, SD =
	-	for the screen, VO = volume.
	_	off. S1 = sound register.
30		reen and border colours — 138
	_	porder, R1 = number of words
	* · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	number spelt wrongly, WO =
	number of words give	
40		t words as data from tape.
50	works out the data for	
60	is a subroutine to pick	
70		Jsed to time up to 20 seconds.
100-150		checks to see if it is alphabetic
110	just in case you have t	
120-130	checks to see if you pr	· ·
140	checks for return key.	
160-190	checks to see if the wo	
200-230		leietes a line from the house.
240-280		ilds up a line on the house.
290-360	House finished, so pla	ys a little tune.
370-470	End routine.	
370-390		\$(14) switches to lower case
		ches back to upper case letters.
370		OUR is a shifted letter Y
380	Charters are:-AN, 0, A	@, AN, OAX, AN.
400	Character is∧W.	
480		ume giving piano effect on note
400.410	played.	
490-540	Subroutine to input we	
550-600		in anagramed word at random.
610-680		18) prints everything after in
	reverse.	
690-700	House characters and	colour.
710-740	House data.	
_		
	ram in Listing 2 just	If you have more than 31
	prints data to tape.	expansion, then type th
	extra idea, you could	following BEFORE loading:
build un	several files of data.	

build up several files of data, containing words with just three, four, five and six letters for POKE 36869, 240: POKE example. To do this, just alter the | 36866,150: SYS 58232 DATA in Listing 2.

numbled words.

POKE 648,30: POKE 642, 32

```
1 OPEN1,4
2 CMD1 LIST
 5 REMARSPELLING##
 10 PRINT""
 15 REMARTITLE AND INSTRUCTIONS**
20 PRINT" DODODODO PPPPISPELLING"
 45 PRINT"流傳車車車NIC ROGERS"
 50 GOSUB5000
60 PRINT"
70 PRINT" MOCOULD PRITYPE IN EACH WORD"
80 PRINT") MODUCAREFULLY AND PRESS"
90 PRINT"XCOCCUPDED DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT
 100 GOSUB5000
200 REM##WORD INPUT##
```

```
205 PRINT""
I though, the house disappears by
                      210 DIMW#(10)
                      215 FORC=1T010
                      220 INPUTW$(C)
                      230 NEXTC
                      250 GOSUB5000
                      260 PRINT"T"
                      450 REMARSET SCORERS
                      460 5-0
                      500 REM##DISPLAY MORDS##
                      505 PRINT""
                      510 FORG=1T010
                      520 PRINTTAB(2) L$(Q);
                      530 BOSUB5000
                      535 FORR=1T02
                      540 L=LEN(k$(a))
                      550 PRINT""
                      560 FORX=1TOL
                      570 PRINTTRB(2)LEFT$(W$(Q),X)
                      580 GOSUB2000
                      590 PRINT""
                      600 NEXTX
                      605 NEXTR
                      610 GOSJB3000
                      615 00T0620
                      620 NEXTO
                      630 005084000
                      2000 FORT=1T01000 NEXT RETURN
                      3000 REM##TEST ON WORD##
                      3010 PRINT""
                      3020 PRINT" DEDUCTION ITS YOUR TURN"
                      3030 PRINT" ▶ DONTO SPELL THE WORD"
                      3040 PRINT"XXXXXXTHEN PRESS RETURN)XXXX"
                      3050 INPUTV$
                      3060 IFY$=\$(Q)GGTD3500
                      3070 IFV#C>W$(Q)GOT09750
                      3500 PRINT""
                      3505 S=S+1
                      3520 PRINT"MONDW TRY THE NEXT WORD"
                      3530 FORT=1T03000 NEXT
                      3535 PRINT""
                      3540 RETURN
                      3750 PRINT""
                      3770 PRINT"XXXXXVOU GOT IT WRONG'
                      3780 FORT-1T03000 NEXT
                      3790 PRINT"XXXTHE RIGHT SPELLING ISXXXXXXX
                      3800 FORT=1T01500'NEXT
                      3810 PRINTTAB(2)W$(Q)
                      3820 FORT=1T03000 NEXT
                      3830 PRINT"XXXNOW TRY THE NEXT WORD"
                      3840 FORT=1T02000'NEXT
                      3845 PRINT"3"
                      3850 RETURN
                      4000 REM##SCORE##
                      4010 PRINT";;"
                      4020 PRINT"XWTHATS THE END OF THE"
                      4030 PRINT"XMTEST AND YOUR SCORE ISXXXXXX
                      4040 PRINTTAB(9)S
                      4060 FORT=1T03000 NEXT
                      4065 PRINT"3"
                      4070 PRINT"MODBLE YOU WOULD LIKE"
                      4080 PRINT" MORNOTHER GO WITH THESE"
                      4095 INPUTY$
                      4100 IFY#=CHR$(89)G0T0450
                      4110 IFY$<>CHR$(89)00T06000
                      5000 FORT=1T03000 NEXT RETURN
                      6000 END
                      7000 CLOSE1,4
```

Listing 2 — spelling

VIC-20 PROGRAMS

```
8 PRINTO-RE(8) STS="MM-IT A KEY TO BEDIN" GOSUBS18
18 DIMER(238).RE(14).CE(14) DEFFMR(B)=INT(RMD(1)08)+1 POS=*N
20 RESTORE FOR1-87014 READRX(I).CX(I) NEXT 100-165 SC-7787 SD-80-36728 VO-36878 S
38 POKEYO+1 138 PRINT*7#* RT=8 MR=8 MO=8
48 JFOR-OTHENOR-1 GOSUB490 POKEVO 15
58 FORI-BYO15 READRA FORJ-1T014 BX([M14-J>=ASC(MIDM(RM,J,1))-48 NEXTJ,I 2-17
75 T16="900000" RMS=" KS="
80 IFTI9>"000020"THEPRINT"S
                                   OUT OF TIME* 9070360
96 PRINTINTIA
188 OUTPHS IFFINA ""THENSE
110 RS=RSC(RH#)RHD127
128 1578-28640XFO ""THENK#-LEFT#(X$ LEH()ub)-1) 0070178
138 1FR8=28THEN178
140 IFRS+13THEN188
LSG IFRS(650RAS>90THEH88
168 X8×X8+CHR8(RS)
178 PRINTPOS XS"
100 IFK0-COTHENRI-RI+1 0070240
198 PRINTPOSTTHE HORD (8 "CF HRWIRS)
200 FORJ-1470187EP-1
218 POKESD+2241+J.| POKESC+2241+J 68 FORDE-1TD18 MEXT POKESC+224[+J.32
220 POKES1,XX+J03 FORDE=:T030 NEXTDE,3 POKES1.0 IFIC17THENI=L+1 JOHNOC+3
230 FORDE-070700 HEXT DOTOGO
248 I=1-1
256 FORJ-11014 07-62
268 POKESD+2201+J.4 POKESC+2201+J OT FORDE=17018 NEXTBE
27# POKESC+2201+J.PX(HX(I014+3)) POKESD+2201+J.CX BX(I014+J))
200 POKES1, XX+JB3 FORDE=17010 NEXTDE 3 POKES1 0 XXHXX+3 1F130THENGO
SAB BEININGS. P
                                     MELL DONE YOU FINISHED!
300 Z1=230 Z2=225
319 POKES1.21 $4-.5 009/3480 POKES1.22 5--.2 009/3488
328 C0=C0+1 1FC0>3THEN22=227
350 POKESE 21 5--.2 DOSLIMASS POKEVO 9
348 POKESI 233 8--.1 00SUB400 POKESI.Zi 6--.2 00SUB400 POKESI.G POKEVO.IS CO-0
378 PRINTCHER(14) Tam OUR FINAL SCORE WAS "
388 PRINT" ALL NO. # AD. HONDS"
390, PRINT "30" TRB (1) RE, TRB(8 MR TRB(15) MO
400 PRINT MOMENT AND HER TRYT(Y/H)*
418 GETAR IFRECTYTRIORECTHTHEMIE
428 1FR6="Y"THEN448
438 FRINTTIOGOD K. SEE VOU LATER 11"CHRE(142) Exp
448 PRINT"HOD YOU MANT HEN HORDS?"
458 DETRE IFREC>"Y"PHDREC>"H"THEN458
448 TERSATY THEIR SINTENSS (142) RUN
478 PRINTCHR#<142> 00T028
1005 111
498 PRINTIMENING YOUR DATE THREE STHEN PRESS THE FLICEYS
```

```
318 OPEN1, 1.6, "DATH FILE"
528 IMPUTOL A DIMERCAY
$38 FORTHITOR ENPLITOR, DB(I) NOT CLOSE!
548 PRINT'S' RETURN
558 CH-3 B-FNALA) (FB-CHT-ENGS)
568 Q=LEHFD#(8)) C#=D#(8) FORZ=1709 8(2)=2 HEXT
578 FORZ-GT015TEP-1 B-FHR(Z) T(Z)=S(B) 8(B)=S(Z) HEXT
500 1FT(1)+1TMD(T(1)+T(2) T(2)+)
                                                                      TT .
600 FORZ-1100 PRINTHIDSCOS T(2),13, NEXT RETURN
619 PRINT'S
              INSTRUCTIONS
629 PRINT'IN THIS DIPPE YOU HUSTE TYPE IN THE RIGHT!
648 PRINT' IF YOU GETS THE WORD PICHT THEN IS THE HOUSE WILL BETS
                                                                DIOGER.".
650 PRINTTIF YOU GET THEM WORD WRONG THE HOUSE MINILL FALL DOWN."
660 PRINTSTO FORJALTOISS NEXT
678 DETRE SPREO" THEOREMS TO RETURN
686 PRINTTENERCIE) ETS FORD-ITOISE HEXT PRINTTE, OUTOSSE
490 DRTR32-8-233.2-105-2-204-2-100 7-193.7-101-7-163.7-95-2-225-2-46-6-79-2-90-2
.76 2
700 DRTR122 2
716 3PT/REGERGO 19083308 - 80080128903308 - 8008 1280893308 - 80812868003388 - 881290400003
726 3FTF0:20000000098.120000000009 300000000003 300 (9000.4003 300->0000->0
738 DFTFC0000044800003,30000500600003.308.C5006 <803.4300->50 6->0034,3000050060
748 DATASBOOKS000003.333333333333333
```

Listing 3 - build a house

```
5 RESTORE
18 RESTORE
19 OPENI,1,1 TORTH FILE*
28 PRINTS; | RESTORE
25 FORM-8TO! READRE PRINTS; AS NEXT
38 QLOSE!
35 END
```

35 END 48 DRYMELICOPTER-TRUCK, LESTEN-HOUSE, MRN. SKOOER, EMATH, CREAK, POLICE, TRUTH, MOTHER, CRR. CRY.

45 DRIVATELEPHONE MALLPAPER, HOLIDAY, KEY, CARTLE, TAGLET, BATTLE, HEART, CAKE, CARROT, RA \$817 50 DATAHORSE LICH, BIKE BCHOOL, FIELD, COMPUTER, BUEEN KIND, JACK, ACE LORRY, POOTBALL,

55 DATRYELLOM RED GREEK BLUE HAPPY RIVER SIAN, PLUG PATHER, B

Listing 4 - data

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I knew then that I had to do something about this temble state of affairs—I KNEW I COULD DO IT I had been 'working on' an idea that I had held RECRET for many many years.

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Remember—I WAS BROKE—in fact, somehow I managed to save the sum of TWO POUNOS (C2) assisted by my wife who had such great faith in the however just this two pounds to commence—

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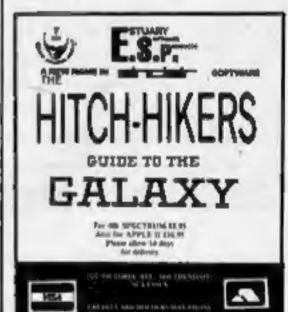
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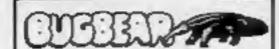
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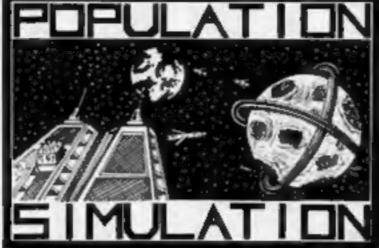
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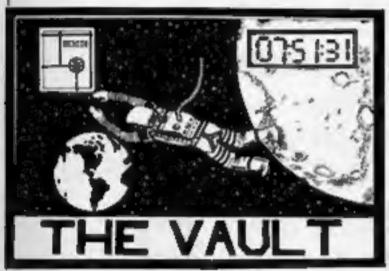




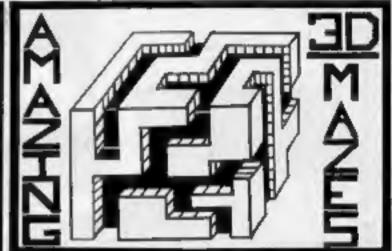
BREAKOUT

POPULATION SIMULATION

CORRIDORS OF DOOM







THE VAULT

HOUSEBREAK

AMAZING 3D MAZES

25 SUPER PROGRAMMES:- including machine code arcade games, simulations, competitive games, adventures, dungeons & dragons, puzzles and ball games, plus a whole lot more.

BREAKOUT:- A fast action machine code programme, that takes you through nine skill levels. Break through a double and then a triple wall. Smooth motion and good graphics.

POPULATION SIMULATION:- A game for two players, each ruling a planet, a battle to find out who can survive the longest. Each decade a player must decide various things in governing his planet, to balance production and technology against consumption and population and to either negotiate or declare war on his opponent; How about sending out an exploration party to find new wealth. Only the experienced last long.

CORRIDORS OF DOOM:- (Spectrum Version) Dungeons & Dragons type game that is very addictive. The game is not won by chance, you have to discover the secrets of how to deal with the monsters in the game. What liquid will destroy the were-rat? How can you tame a giant spider? What will you do about the blood devil? Collect treasure and find an exit, but first you must cross some nasty pits.

AMAZING 3D MAZES:- For the intelligent, collect all treasures and find your way out, score extra points for shortest routes and don't get frustrated by apparent dead ends.

THE VAULT:- Start at the outer limits of space and find your way home, then release the manager who is trapped in his own bank vault, it's a race against time as this game really puts your powers of logic to the test.

HOUSEBREAK:- Dark rooms, treasures, alarms and viscious dogs are met in a real time, full graphical adventure.

3D NOUGHTS & CROSSES:- Played inside a 4x4x4 cube, it is more like chess than noughts and Crosses and wins, on average, nine games out of ten.

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